

A COMMEMORATIVE

SPECIAL EDITION

MACLEAN'S



www.macleans.ca

'We must
pick ourselves
up, dust
ourselves
off, and
begin again
the work of
remaking
America'

PRESIDENT
BARACK HUSSEIN
OBAMA

January 20, 2009

DISPLAY UNTIL FEB. 9, 2009
\$5.95 PM 40070230 R 08973



**THERE'S A POINT TO THIS.
IT MAY TAKE FOUR YEARS TO FIND IT,
BUT THERE'S A POINT.**

At one time or another in your life, you have owned a car that disappointed you. From the big, to the small, there had to be something that got in the way of you being entirely satisfied.

Maybe it was the clicking sound beneath the dash that haunted your dreams. A windshield that always cracked in the same place. Fluids that leaked, and turned your garage floor into some depressed kid's potato painting. Stereo that only picked up new age experimental jazz stations. Brakes like a dog whistle—that only humans hear.

The engine that died on the way to the interview for a job you never would've gotten anyway (or so you tell yourself in retrospect). The cup holder that, one day, decided not to come out and greet you in the morning.

Are conditioning that heated, angry that you had brought it out of hibernation. Heaters that chugged. O. Nutch, your Uncle Barry knowingly pointed out. Transmissions that slipped and left you in second. Backseats that never got you past first.

Rear that compromised the seal in your window, ruining your new calculator watch. The spare that

was flat. Foggy windows on dry days. A brake light that only worked when you hit the gas.

That.
It's an exhaustive list, we know, and by no means complete. But you get the point.

We all know the cliché: Life is far too short to be unhappy. It's something not lost on all of us at Nissan. After all, we're drivers too. So when we set out to create the new Altima we decided to shake things up, do things differently.

We call it *Sakebyade*, or *Sake Luvacch* (you'll probably find the latter easier to pronounce, and far less embarrassing at dinner parties). That is: if you talk about ads at dinner parties).

Sake Luvacch is the process with which we made the new Altima, a process that involves 4 years (that didn't take too long, did it?) of constant testing from the very minute the pen hits the drafting table, to the second it's given off the lot.

First, we use common sense. Everybody talks to each other. From the designers, to the engineers, manufacturing, right down to the showroom floor, everyone collaborates. The way, for example, a line,

unforeseen by the people who want to make it look pretty, is addressed by those who want to turn your knuckles white every time you hit the gas. And vice versa. By the way, we sell those too.

Next, come the checks. Hundreds of them. Throughout the production of each Altima, body shop, paint shop, hard hat, and soft hat, it will be checked, and re-checked to see that what they are doing is up to code.

And then there are the tests. Thousands, all told. And we're not talking about multiple choice, or essays where you just make stuff up. No cramming the night before here.

Yes, real tests that require us to actually drive every angle Altima that comes off the end of the production line.

Impressive. Yet, so are the Quality Specialists who perform them. They're called *Squad & Katsu Akover*—nothing to do with mice and snakes. A *Samat & Katsu Expert*, there are 70 of them at the plant, will drive each freshly-washed Altima for more than 7 minutes as soon as it comes off the line. And drive it hard.

To see if there are wind noise and suspension issues, there are two 100 km/h straightaway tests. There's a 14 km/h torsional road test that looks for squeaks and rattles, hence the name, from the suspension to body. A specially-designed course ensures acceleration and handling are up to par

Also, a patch and concrete road that simulates the effects of up to 600,000 potholes.

Why all the tough stuff, you ask?
Well, ultimately, if any Altima has the slightest abnormality, the *Squad & Katsu Akover* is only too happy to squeak & rattle.

Let's be honest here. There will be Altimas that don't make the cut.

When all is said and done, you have yourself a car so thoroughly tested, you'd think it'd have an anxiety attack every time it passes a school bus. Get used to it. Given the power under the hood, you'll be doing plenty of passing.

Every Altima is a car unlikely to annoy. No more mysterious thump when you pass a fire hydrant. Paint that chips if you look at it wrong. A trunk that only closes when you lock the bumper.

It takes 4 years to get here, but, ultimately it's highly unlikely you will ever be disappointed with your Altima.

That is, unless, of course, you're a sucker for punishment. You secretly enjoy being disappointed every time you get behind the wheel. In that case, there are plenty of other cars out there that will well, keep you satisfied.

THE 2009 NISSAN ALTIMA.



SHIFT...quality



WITHOUT CONFIDENCE in a brighter future, a nation can stagnate and decline

The necessity of hope

The healthy human mind is by nature optimistic. Positive thinking is a human survival mechanism—a threat to our existence. The same holds true as a national, and even a global level.

Optimism is a basic requirement for progress. Key expectations are the reason banks lend, employers hire, investors and entrepreneurs take risks and families form. But once pessimism takes hold, as it has today, our collective brain chemistry can go for the worst and therefore spin out of control. The only solution to the current world wide depression is to change how people think about their future.

Enter Barack Obama and his message of hope.

The world's imagination of Obama as the 44th President of the United States is one of the most significant, and optimistic, events in American history. It holds the promise for improving the outlook of the entire world.

It is unrealistic that all increasing leaders cannot themselves exchange and hope. But Obama's consistent message throughout his long campaign, his background and his personal beliefs, transcended this simple stereotype. The man associated with a black man to the presidency puts to rest centuries of racial prejudice in the U.S. and is a hopeful act in itself. But hope is a delicate, elusive thing. Keeping it back will require more than just symbolism. It will require self-confidence, calculation and engagement.

Obama is not the first American leader to face the challenge of shifting the national mood. During the darkest days of the 1930s,

when the world suffered through the Great Depression and faced what many believed to be an inevitable chaos between fascism or Communism, Franklin D. Roosevelt rallied his nation with a message of honesty, courage and hopefulness. Acknowledging that he was leading a "fearful nation in the midst of a wretched world," Roosevelt firmly urged his 1933 inauguration speech to reassure the public that "this great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper... the only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

Such optimism here, a direct parallel in Obama's own stirring inauguration address. "Today I say to you that the challenges we face are real. They are serious and they are many... But look here, America—yes they are real. On this day, we gather because we have chosen hope over fear."

Hope means as much today as it did in 1933. Without confidence in brighter future, a nation can stagnate and decline. Japan's lost decade of the 1990s is proof enough of that. Given the stature and significance of the U.S. in the world, the prospect of American pessimism has tremendous global consequences. Remember that the U.S. is still Canada's only neighbor, our most important trade destination, our best friend and our partner in worldwide international relations. Canada's prosperity and future success rests on an optimistic and engaged U.S. If optimism is contagious, so is pessimism. And so, with a heavy gloom hanging over our country, Americans have extensively turned to a man with a convincing and necessary message of hope. An entire world awaits. ■

MACLEAN'S

EDITORIAL BOARD
Chairman
 David Foot
President
 David Foot
Vice President
 David Foot
Managing Director
 David Foot
Executive Director
 David Foot
Senior Advisor
 David Foot
Advisor
 David Foot
Contributor
 David Foot

EDITORIAL BOARD
Chairman
 David Foot
President
 David Foot
Vice President
 David Foot
Managing Director
 David Foot
Executive Director
 David Foot
Senior Advisor
 David Foot
Advisor
 David Foot
Contributor
 David Foot

EDITORIAL BOARD
Chairman
 David Foot
President
 David Foot
Vice President
 David Foot
Managing Director
 David Foot
Executive Director
 David Foot
Senior Advisor
 David Foot
Advisor
 David Foot
Contributor
 David Foot

EDITORIAL BOARD
Chairman
 David Foot
President
 David Foot
Vice President
 David Foot
Managing Director
 David Foot
Executive Director
 David Foot
Senior Advisor
 David Foot
Advisor
 David Foot
Contributor
 David Foot

{meet the experts}

David Foot is an award-winning author of *Boomers in the 21st Century* and *The Unwritten Rules of the 21st Century*. He is the author of *The 21st Century* and *The 21st Century*.



David Foot on the Bust Generation

What are some of the major trends of the Bust generation born between 1967 and 1979?

The Busters are now in their 30s and early 40s—the age when you buy a house and start a family. They are totally wrapped up with everything involved in raising young children, paying off and renovating a house, and filling it with furniture. They are in debt. But we've got to understand that if you go into debt for your education, you are building human wealth. When you go into debt to buy a house, you are creating an physical asset. So these people are not irresponsible borrowers. They are building their nest base for the future.

Homeers had a notoriously hard time when they entered the workforce because of the economic downturn. They were not used to the large amounts of debt that they had to carry. They were not used to the large amounts of debt that they had to carry.

The early Busters, born right behind the Boomers, have had a real challenge. They are our first Generation X in the Douglas Cleveland sense of the word. People who are 38 to 45 now have had a really rough life, succumbed by the fact that many of their parents were born in the 1930s. That was a tough time, of course, but fewer people were born then as their parents did extremely well. Some of the early Busters have been lucky. Some have had to work really hard. Almost all of them had more career pressure before they finally landed their first full-time job in the mid to late 1990s. Their lives—growing, moving, buying a house, having a family—were delayed five years behind everybody else's. But, today, many of them have established careers and have enjoyed a decade of stability. They are finally on track and doing well.

The young Busters have done extremely well. There are the dot-com generation of the 1990s who have pursued very early good jobs in the new millennium and are often as the frontier is small and riskless—smaller businesses. They're creative and energetic, and they didn't have a lot of competition. They were through the bust of the early 2000s and didn't have anything to lose except their jobs. That woke them up to the fact that everything doesn't just go up automatically, and they're generally well established now.

As the economy is slowing, although it is a Bust generation with many born between 1967 and 1979.

To put a likely assessment of Boomers in the workplace. Boomers captured education and a lack of creativity. They're blocking the progress and career paths of younger workers and building bureaucracy. Both generations can't wait until the Boomers retire—and they've got a long way ahead of them. The world's work is about to change dramatically. People may want to work until they are 70, but in jobs that allow them to work half-time for half-salary or half a year for half the salary. Half a Boomer's salary will pay the full salary of an Echo, so the Boomers can create jobs for their kids. We just have to get corporations to develop appropriate policies to make this happen.



The Busters cohort was born between 1967 and 1979, after the Baby Boomers (born between 1946 and 1966). Due to their small numbers, and the much larger demographic ahead of them, Busters had a hard time breaking into the workforce.

For more information on the Desjardins Financial Security retirement research visit www.rethinkingretirement.com. To view a video of the interview, click a question or view related information visit www.macleans.ca/macleansreports.





'Looking for ways to retain young employees? The answer is simple: respect.'

HELP WANTED

CANADIAN JOB LOSSES are frightening and largely unnecessary. That's the grim reality of 10 in 100 jobs, *Business*, Jan. 20. If we used a little imagination, we could quickly employ all of our workforce. Scroll, scroll, empty offices, expensable and self-contained homes could be mass produced in our auto plants. We could build our own wind generators instead of importing them from Denmark. National computer stores could promote novel designs for all kinds of products from cars to computers. We have the brains and the brains. The only thing missing is the imagination. *O. Robert Lawrence, North Bay, Ont.*

I WAS PLEASED to see Jason Kirby's mention of nursing as a profession that those facing job loss should consider. The health care sector is currently experiencing rapid changes in a number of areas, and will likely remain so. Nursing is a wonderful profession, with many opportunities in the hospital sector and beyond. In order to increase the number of well prepared nursing graduates to meet the current and future needs of the health care system, investment is required for academic infrastructure—there are still shortages in classroom space, resources such as lab facilities, and qualified professors. To those considering a career in nursing, come on over! To politicians considering the coming federal budget, show me the money! *Heather Flint, RN, Ottawa*

CHUCK Maclean, would you not forgo another of your essays and glossy covers for once, and update our gold medal winning item Canada on the front? You relegated it to page 59. At Canada's No. 1 magazine, you should have chosen to reflect our hockey team's great victory in Canada's No. 1 sport on our cover. What do you say? *Bruce Baldwin, Winnipeg*

KIDS TODAY

ARE YOU CALLED "Net Genes"? I feel difficult to be the ubiquitous article "Dude, when's my job?" (*Business*, Jan. 18). It is difficult to people my age. The issue is much deeper than having grown up with pizza on the back. No one I know was recruited out of college into management positions. Most of the university graduates I know could not get a job after graduation without heading back to school

for even more education. There is no notion of "paying your dues in the real world" and making up for it as a manager at position. According to John Deegan, a professor of psychology quoted in the article, we "expect to go to college, to make lots of money, and perhaps even be famous." While that we are expected to go to college, pay lots of money, put our selves into debt to get an entry-level job that is likely just a contract and doesn't actually pay benefits, which will leave us in debt and force us to live with our parents until the age of 30. Perhaps we feel entitled because unlike



previous generations we have paid many dues before we even get a shot at a decent job. *Karen Maje, Toronto*

I COULD NOT have been more disgusted at the advertisement self-promoted Gen Y copers. Juvenile! Gen Y seems to be the boomer generation about how to keep their employees happy. Birthday parties? Please. You're looking for ways to retain employees? The answer is simple: respect. Today's up-and-coming generation does have a lot to offer the workplace, and it doesn't come in the form of looking for quick fixes and handouts. Since we're a positive reinforcement team as a people? I don't have to run the dog, but at the very least I like to know what my opinion is heard and valued in the workplace. Courtesy to popular opinion, called a number of money do come within Gen Y. And we couldn't care less if you live at the date of our birthday. *Joanna Webb, Regina*

NOT ALL SMILES

"OPEN SMILE" (*Health*, Jan. 19) should be an eye-opener and jaw-dropper for people who value business surroundings and high-pressure salesmanship in dentistry rather than good dental and patient skills. Dentistry has changed a lot in the 40 years since I started, but it has less to do with theories than with the abundance of American marketing. Expensive equipment, technology, facilities and staff cost a lot of money. This translates into monthly losses, loan payments, and payroll. To meet those payments, dental practices need revenue. Some resort to methods that make me cringe. Dentists are supposed to be health professionals, not make-over artists. I have trouble understanding how the use of lasers to remove age spots from skin, or lasers on body hair, or facelifts themselves, comes under the expense of dentistry. It used to be and that most dentists were poor business people. It seems that nowadays, some might be more business people than dentists. *Dr. William Kline, London, Ont.*

YES, THERE ARE some dentists who promote "take-home" services, "smile" to replace your necessary fillings and advise this. Excessively. However, this is not true for the vast majority of us. After 40 years of practice, I have never advertised. I have always been fully booked, usually with waiting lists. I advise my patients not to have serviceable amalgam fillings replaced by composites because these do not, however, last as long as the amalgams—and I tell my patients that composite restorations have found amalgam fillings to be safe. I do not recommend any treatment that I would not do on my own wife or children. I have talked to many of my colleagues and most of them feel the same as I do. *Dr. Mark Taylor, St. Catharines, Ont.*

DEFENDING DEUTSCHLAND

IN HIS PIECE on Eberlin ("More than just a poor man's Mozart," *Music*, Jan. 19), Jason J. Worman writes that Haydn's most often used "wonder" "symphony" the Germans put words to it and called it Deutschland. Über Alles. True, it reminded the German audience during the Nazi regime, but it was in 1815 that the German poet August Heinrich Hoffmann wrote to Haydn's melody as a call for the dozens of independent petty states to be united into a single Germany and, in the third

SNAP. SEND. GET INFORMED.

Receive a preview of critical issues facing Canadians all in the palm of your hand.

Take a photo of this ad or the cover of this magazine with your mobile device and be the first to get an exclusive preview of the **THINKING THE UNTHINKABLES** video debate series sent directly to your phone.

Don't miss Canada's brightest minds debating issues important to Canadians.

SNAP A PICTURE NOW!

SNAP.	SEND.	GET INFORMED.
SNAP a picture of this ad or this magazine's cover	SEND the picture via MMS to 000495 or e-mail it to microsoft@snapintl.com	GET an exclusive video preview of the debates sent directly to your phone

Presented by:

Canadian Business

MACLEAN'S
MAKING SENSE OF IT ALL

Microsoft

See related risk warnings and other important notices on your next purchase. Always use your provider's terms. MMS rates may vary. Some restrictions may apply. See your provider for details.

Bracing for the cold: both me and Obama



BARBARA AMIEL

According to Genesis, Noah was 500 years old when "the flood of waters was upon the earth." Which is exactly how old I felt when I wrote recollections of my personal life in lap and soggy with escaped papers floating about. As with many homes in Toronto last weekend, the heating had failed and my bedrooms was a bracing 5°C. I ought to have known that water pipes would burst but I had forgotten due to a bit of osmotic sense due no doubt to the cryogenic suspension of my thought processes.

The interesting aspect of the experience was actually having to look at material I had stored from 10 years ago or more. I find it perfectly easy to throw out or give away clothes, but decades old copies of *Commentary* worrying about Nixon Sharmistha's imprisonment in the gale and pamphlets from various think tanks have a personal case connect with me. They follow my life about in crowded homes writing to set the light. Or in this case the water.

I appear to have had a bit of a perception twist with Ireland. It seems that for years, I had gone in one's immune in bedrooms because of trade restrictions on imported goods. I thought that would be a good way to set a column on free trade but then the European Union came along and set out rules on human cases and followed up with a cumbersome classification system which somehow was a common way into the debate. I have no idea why I kept *Commentary* since 2000, but it seemed "Overfitting: the Irishman's Solution" with an analysis of electoral politics. I regret very much that I never found occasion to use a January 2001 paper in the *American Journal of Sociology* which analyzed the French Revolution in culinary terms. The three academics felt that the revolution of 1789 "undermined the institutional logic of the ancien régime and

and" and replaced it with classical cuisine. They agreed that nouvelle cuisine was the outgrowth of the Sorbonne's student protests in May 1968 and it could be found a new institutional logic and identity movement. The paper was clearly refuted by deconstruction with five pages.

An old *Wall Street Journal* dated the 1941 account of three young boys in the town of Sunderland in Britain caught smoking at the

and address, the new President of the United States called an American to sacrifice and to look after each other, he said notions that in practical terms have not been in the vocabulary of his contemporaries. For the generation that were most instrumental in electing him, the generation boomers and their children, confidence in a more familiar notion than sacrifice. Not necessarily their fault: their parents worked hard to make it so.



I had forgotten, due no doubt to the cryogenic suspension of my thought processes

back of a shop to illustrate good policing. The policeman arrested them the mile home to their parents. The policeman smiled, the parents smiled, but 12-year-old boys were not allowed to so they were in trouble with their parents (dads being away at the war). All this was unacceptable at the time. That was the notion of consensual, zero-tolerance policing. Today, the policeman would be reprimanded or sued for forcing children to walk without permission from the parents. The parents would be charged with negligence if their children and have social reform all over them, and the children would be sent off to be converted or, depending on the type of cigarette, put in rehab.

Actions speak as the spirit of the times and become subversive to it. What makes an action good or bad for a society is rarely in actual context but rather the culture around it. That 1941 anecdote is not irrelevant to the great celebrations surrounding the installation of President Obama. When, in his inaug-

The election of a president is a gamble in which voters place a bet based on perform and personal assurance made on little more than news clips and the remarks of television pundits. Still, I'm not sure that matters. I'm barely pulling together my own files for new books, clippings that take it for granted Obama will radically change American foreign and domestic policy, while I don't think he has much chance of doing either. The legend is that King Obama could not talk back these *Presidents Obama* cannot change the realities of the Middle East or the spectrum of American illness. In the end, the game ends and that ends in the spirit of the times. Even the best leader can only obey the best of the maples. At the end of Obama's first term, the left may be disappointed and there's a slim chance that just maybe the night will be pleasantly surprised. ■

barbara.amiel@macleanmagazine.com

PHOTO: GARY WILSON/GETTY



When I say 74 degrees, I mean 74 degrees.

YORK® is the most comfortable way to stay warm. It's packed into a compact, attractive rubberized jacket. It's made in the USA. In Ontario, call 810-3066. In Western Canada, call 888-864-YORK. Or visit www.yorkjackets.com

YORK
it's time to get comfortable.®



And the saviour was taken over by PR flacks



ALLAN POTCHENEGHAM

It was 2005 when the word started to circulate in the right Liberal circles. All their troubles would be soon over. A saviour was about to appear from abroad. It seemed so promising, almost to ridiculous.

After nearly 30 years away from his native Canada, the astute Michael Ignatieff was to forever us with his presence. And what a presence. Father of several Canadian diplomats internationally. Grandfather a member of the cabinet of the last Russian czar.

More? Star graduate of Harvard, richest university in the world. Star graduate of Oxford. Author of 14 books. Winner of the Governor General's Award for his family memoir. Owner of seven honorary doctoral degrees. And, even more intriguing, while at the University of Toronto the associate and rumored best friend of one Bob Rae, later, as we know, a five year NDP premier of mighty Ontario. When Rae fell off with depression as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, Ignatieff earned him back to health.

The seminar was scheduled to address the annual convention of the Liberal Party of Canada in Ottawa. It happened early, took place in an aisle clear and before the starring oratory was well over, three different (yes—three) prime gallery versions, a senator and a lobby agent came over to whisper, "What are you doing? What's he going to run as?"

I wrote several columns in admiration (including the alternative) and apparently he had noticed. He sat down, gave it a try and exclaimed, "NICE TIE!" Two weeks later, at a Harvard reunion dinner in Toronto, I was at his table and he gazed at the shirt of the chap next to me and exclaimed, "NICE TIE!" Three weeks later, my wife and I were at the annual Politics and the Pen dinner in Ottawa and he gazed at the blazer on her chest and exclaimed, "NICE BUTTONS!"

Oh dear, I thought. The stiff academic, loosed into the unfamiliar political world, had been taken over by the public relations flacks, hired by the party to teach him how to talk to the common folk, keeping Lefin and Shekspir to the rear.

And then there was the problem of a riding for the ascendant one. It was assumed Toronto-Kensdale, where all the refs, their barbers and coals live, would be the appropriate soft landing. If not there, St. Paul's, another first home with all the nice houses

jumped to Dion, thus giving Ignatieff the worst excuse for a politician ever to appear since Donald Duck.

Dion fumbled on, the two supposed best friends equally silent, all of us assuming they would resolve their obvious dilemma and determine which of the two would be best to replace him. Such silly optimism. The Stephen Harper, again with glaze at the maple performance of the goofy Ogopson leader, watched with equal interest the two in courties, still jockeying for the head



I wrote several columns in admiration. His advice could read, so a meeting was arranged.

Strangely enough, as potential rivals for the leadership sensed the threat, the lobby side came with all those central Toronto residents who were forced to retreat to the rather beautiful, strong geography of Woodbine Lakeside, out on the fringes of the suburbs.

Apparently Iggy was very hard to love. One of the Toronto papers printed a letter to the editor, from a woman who admitted she was a Liberal but wrote that "every time I see Michael Ignatieff smiling in print or on television, it reminds me of what the Duke of Wellington said after reviewing his troops before the battle of Waterloo: 'I don't know what they are going to do in the French, but they can't be the hell out of me!'"

And then there was the embarrassing leadership appointment of 2006, at which all the planning for the renaissance was ended. And Mr. Delors, Paul Martin, would finally be gone. Candidates were Iggy, the alleged best friend Rae, promising young Gerald Kennedy and an unknown Quebec professor by the name of Stéphane Dion. Such friends were Iggy and Dion that neither one would support the other, Kennedy at the last vote

spat. The arrogance of the Tories—seeing no united front against them—led of course to that insane May 2008 budget that forced Harper to call Parliament for two months or lose his job.

The doomed goofy one, so we know, arranged his final summit with the hapless "candidate" put with the ever-dispersed Jack Layton and speaking of raised—the grin Galia Duggan, whose steward met us to break up Gerald's. Meaning whoever succeeded Dion would be dead for the Liberals in the four western provinces. Thanks, goofus.

And so, with blood already on the floor, Ignatieff finally got serious about the alleged fixed tip and dispatched Rae to the auction by refusing to go along with a national party vote on the leadership, relying only on his own support to put in the dagger. Such a friendship.

Just one thing, Mike (Does anyone call you Mike?) In future, junk the tie clip. M

Send: Allan Potchenegham at allan@sympatico.ca. Or visit www.delfts.com.

Imagine what 50 million tires would look like if you didn't recycle them.



Way to go Alberta!

Your tireless commitment has not only recycled 50 million scrap tires to date, it continues to protect the environment and produce benefits that roll back into Alberta communities. For more information visit albertarecycling.ca

Alberta recycling
WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES



electronics

paint

oil



'Pilots are so involved in managing a crisis that they tend to forget they have 100 people in back in a state of panic'

AVIATION SAFETY EXPERT ROBERT HELMREICH TALKS TO KATE FILLION ABOUT PILOT ERROR, ENGINE FAILURE, AND DITCHING ON THE HUDSON RIVER

Q You're known as the "father of crew resource management," which is credited with dramatic improvements in aviation safety. Capt. Sullenberger, the pilot who safely landed on the Hudson River, was involved in implementing CRM training at USAir. What is CRM, exactly?

A: It's the application of human factors to flight and aviation, the study of how humans interact with each other and machines. It may or may not be very friendly. What I really do is social psychology in the aviation setting.

Q: Is Sullenberger a hero?

A: I'm sure he doesn't think of himself as a hero—most pilots who perform splendidly in crises don't think of themselves that way—but it's remarkable to the public. In terms of how that guy did that, that was a really good way of writing a tale for the passengers. A lot of the crew, pilots are involved in managing a crisis that they tend to forget they might have a couple hundred people in back who are in a state of panic.

Q: How did he do that, by staying calm?

A: By communicating, period. I was in an inflight emergency once, we lost pressure and were making an emergency descent, and someone was said. Though nobody consciously panicked, it started the bell out of everybody. People thought we were going down.

Q: The engine made some noise?

A: No, and that tends to get your attention

Q: You'd like to know why?

Q: Is engine failure a once-in-a-lifetime event?

A: A double failure is an incredibly rare anomaly. It happens when you run out of fuel, of course, but I can't think of a mechanical event, like a bird strike, that's caused both engines to fail.

Q: Don't manufacturers actually test their engines by throwing frozen poultry into them?

A: Yes. Frozen turkeys, usually.

Q: So what happens in the cockpit when the engine fails?

A: First thing you do is try to restart, which is what the captain did, but it wasn't going to happen. They were too low, among other things. At the same time, you're looking for the best suitable airport, which in this case was too far away, which is why the pilot made the correct but scary decision to ditch on water.

Q: Why is that so difficult?

A: When it's pretty darned unforgiving. If you hit water in an airplane, it's like hitting a brick wall.

Q: I would think hitting the ground would be more unforgiving.

A: It's about what happens afterward. You get penetration in the hull, and the plane is going to sink. You have to get the passengers out so they don't drown. In a forced landing [on ground], even off a runway, you typically can hopscotch, so you don't have the same type of crisis. The pilot was really lucky it was a

river and not the Atlantic. What action would have increased the risk excessively?

Q: How often does a pilot in an emergency situation just lose it and start panicking?

A: It's really rare. Only two cases come to mind, both in the '80s, once in Asia and the other was in Africa.

Q: Any parallels to the USAir accident?

A: There's one in Canada, actually, that involved absolutely splendid piloting and saved a lot of people. It's known as the Gander glider, because it happened in Gander, Manitoba, in 1985. There was confusion about whether they were using the metric system or not when they put fuel on board, so the poor pilot ran out of fuel at 41,000 feet, with nowhere to go, and managed to land on a drag strip while a drag race was going on.

Q: When's going on in the cabin when a plane is going down? You'd imagine chaos, though passengers accounts from the USAir flight suggest it was pretty quiet.

A: I think we all people that people tend to support each other in these types of situations. In the inflight emergency I was involved in, people were very supportive, looking to help passengers with kids, and everybody was pretty altruistic.

Q: I've seen many of the USAir passengers were convinced they were about to die. Do pilots generally think that too?

A: No. One of the things stress does is give you tunnel vision: you focus on managing the airplane, and peripheral things just don't bubble up to the surface. And sometimes,



Which future would you choose?

Start by knowing your cholesterol targets

www.CholesterolTargets.com Go there to learn about the most recent cholesterol target numbers and how they affect you. You need to know — even if you're already being treated. The website will give you all the latest information on cholesterol, including facts that can help you reduce your risk of heart disease or stroke



Illustration by a medical professional and photographer

11.1.10



HOW MANY RESOURCES AND POLLUTANTS does it take to make a light bulb?

More than it should. The reality is, even energy-efficient products don't always come from energy-efficient beginnings. Consider for a second what goes into producing, powering, and transporting products around the world like hybrid cars, appliances and yes, even energy-efficient light bulbs. Until they're manufactured in a carbon-neutral way, transported on low-emission vehicles, and powered in our homes by cleaner energy including wind and solar, green products

will never be as green as they can be. While your commitment to use energy-efficient products is still better for our planet, that commitment will mean so much more when we have a fair, effective, science-based agreement on climate change. That's why WWF is working with government and industry to make that happen and get to the root of climate change. Working together we're confident that a vibrant, low-carbon economy is possible. But the time for action is now.



Join us in support of real action against climate change. Learn more at WWF.ca

their thinking is terrific. So much of airline training, for both flight attendants and pilots, involves putting them in simulated emergencies and letting them see how they behave and how they manage it. Even though the US Air crew hadn't trained for ditching, they had years and years of training in coping with emergency situations. I've spent a lot of time in the simulator when crews get thrown into crazy things. There was a problem at one air line that everybody decided was diagnosed by a sudden they kept getting more minor emergencies, and if they managed them well, they got praise, so the graduation exercise was the loss of all engines. I think this kind of training really does prepare you to say, "I can handle this."

Q: How you know it's a simulation?
A: Not just how you've performed, and that's important. One of the scenarios in some training is that if a crew actually does crash in a serious in simulation, it can have long-term negative effects, and a lot of times the people managing the simulation will try to manipulate things so it doesn't go that far. It's a pretty horrific experience, even in a simulator. For one thing, the simulation is such high-fidelity that you tend to lose track of the fact that the fact thing is simulated. I've seen crews come out of those things with sweat dripping, really stressed out because it feels so real. And there's also the realization of that had not been in a simulation, it would've been terrible.

Q: In a forced landing, how do the pilots know for sure?
A: They are in shoulder harnesses, restrained as their seats wouldn't wear them so intense, you want them looking out and steering. There's been pressure to have the same kinds of safety exercises for passengers, by the way, and I think it's a great idea. Why not? We're all used to doing it in our cars.

Q: Where the plane lands after an incident like this, is there a contingency for the crew?
A: People are generally extremely well behaved. They've been briefed, they know where the emergency exits are. I can think of only one incident of panic, in Saad Arabia, but the plane was on fire.

Q: But people sometimes stampede for an exit when they're not sure if it's a fire or a crash situation?

A: I think that these safety messages at the beginning of the flight really register, even if you're sitting there reading Mailton's where you should be listening to the flight attendant.

Q: Why do some people waste time grabbing their hand luggage?

A: I don't know. Unless you have diamonds or unregistered securities in your bag, I'd say to back with it.

Q: A lot of passengers have the idea that flying is pretty routine, the plane is on autopilot most of the time, the pilots are doing very little. Is that picture not very accurate, according to your research?

A: No, it isn't. Certainly if you're flying from Houston to Tokyo, there's a lot of autopilot while you're en route, but nevertheless there are a lot of things you have to attend to: crew, systems. It isn't just doing the dollars.

Q: What is the Line Operations Safety Audit?

A: It's something we designed at the University of Texas in 1993, to systematically observe how crews prepare what they've been taught. We put an observer in a position in the cockpit to record behaviors and everything that was going on, while giving crews an absolute guarantee that everything observed was confidential. As a result we got a pretty remarkable database on behavior. Now airlines are all supposed to do this, to take a snapshot of their operations without properly for their pilots.

Q: Four data shows that 80 per cent of flights face one or more threats, with an average of four threats per flight. What are a threat?

A: Anything that should require attention from the crew, and which decreases the margin of safety. For example, bad weather and mechanical malfunctions like losing hydraulics are a threat. It's important to recognize that even on a calm day, a lot of things can go wrong. What I see crews doing now that's very healthy is talking at briefings about "What are the most important threats on today's flight?" That goes a long way toward helping crews face all of these situations.

Q: Are birds typically considered a threat?
A: There's a lot of debate right now about the actual number of bird strikes. I can only remember about three, none of which were serious enough to shut down an engine, much less one. I remember one flight at Continental where a bird came through the windshield, so they made an emergency descent with engine failure. It was pretty weird, both in my memory.

Q: Your data shows that 70 per cent of commercial pilots have reported near-misses, and that 80 per cent of flights involve errors, with an average of 2.5 a flight. What's an error?

A: An action or omission by the crew that changes the flight margin, like missing an altitude, or misreading altitudes or radio frequencies. The brilliant thing is not that there are so many errors, but that errors are managed so well.

Q: Are you concerned about the increasing

automation of airlines?

A: There was a time, back in the mid '80s, when one manufacturer said, "Automation will eliminate human error," which was probably as dumb a statement as anybody ever made. Automation has changed the nature of error, it hasn't eliminated error. Back in the days of the Wright brothers, the errors were very simple. I misidentified the track and rudder. Today you can see the automation properly that itself, automation has been a great boon to safety. In fact, some of the systems that provide an envelope of safety actually helped Capt. Sullenberger control the airplane, it wasn't completely dead.

Q: How do you pilot, who's really from completely automated aircraft, lose the kinds of old-fashioned stick and rudder skills that helped him land safely?



It's important to recognize: even on a calm day, a lot of things can go wrong. It isn't dozing for dollars.'

A: That's been a concern of mine for years. I've always advocated that pilots designate the automation and fly in like a PaperCub for a while. It's really more fun doing the stick and rudder stuff than pushing a button on an electronic flight instrument system.

Q: The mandatory instrument approach for pilots to do in the U.S., so Sullenberger only has a couple of more years. But isn't he more qualified as an emergency than a younger pilot?

A: Absolutely. And once I moved in to give lessons myself, I became much more of an advocate of "let the old fart keep going!" ■

OTTAWA'S BEST-KEPT SECRET?

Why we know almost nothing about one of this country's most powerful men

BY PHILIP SLAYTON



In early September, when Stephen Harper named Tom Cromwell to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court of Canada, he brought the first part of a planned and formal selection process to a sudden and premature end. Cromwell was still expected to be publicly interviewed by a parliamentary committee before his appointment was confirmed, but the *News Scotia* judge was left reeling in the word while an election was fought and Parliament postponed. Then, without any public interview, Harper made his choice final, leaving the important question of the entire day he announced a long list of Senate appointments. The whole process took almost four months, spared procedures that Harper himself had earlier approved, involved not Parliament nor the public, and left a bad taste in many mouths.

The hushed selection process was a pity because it mirrored an otherwise sound appointment. Almost everyone agrees that Cromwell, 56, was a good choice. His resume is impeccable, if a little odd—he's from what political scientist Peter Russell calls the "grey middle." Cromwell has been a full-time law teacher and a judge. He's a graduate, in music and law, of Queen's University in Kingston. He went to Oxford University and graduated with the notoriously difficult bachelor of civil law degree. From 1983 until 1997, Cromwell taught at Dalhousie Law School, adding a three-year leave of absence to be executive legal officer for then-Supreme Court chief justice Antonio Lamer. He was appointed to the *News Scotia* Court of Appeal in 1997. He's bilingual.

The legal profession has hailed Cromwell's appointment. It usually does with Supreme Court judges. The widely read legal blog *www.alan.carrington.100* good things it says Cromwell will bring to the court. They include his technical skill (he plays the piano well), and his Oxford qualifications, which offer, says the blog, Supreme Court justice Ian Binnie's degree from civil Cambridge. More to the point are some other things on the blog: "Cromwell's passion for court reform, his interest in law reform, and his practical approach to legal reasoning. Cromwell seems particularly interested in the structure of the court system, alternative means of dispute resolution, and the rules of civil procedure."

People say nice things about Tom Cromwell. They say he's cautious, but firm. He's thought to be non ideological, a centrist. "He was the overwhelming choice of people who—made recommendations to me," said Justice Minister Rob Nicholson, when he announced the nomination in September. A former president of the Canadian Bar Association and approvingly, "he's the kind of guy who's been in government" but, as almost always with these

appointments, the Canadian public rarely knows when even a short and official curriculum vitae, it will have no real opportunity to satisfy any curiosity beyond that. Cromwell's biography will soon be forgotten, as he recedes into the shadows of high judicial office.

The Supreme Court Act gives the executive branch the power to appoint a Supreme Court judge. That means the prime minister decides. Any senior judge in *Robson's* means little or nothing. Tom Cromwell's appointment demonstrated this dramatically.

In the early part of this decade, prompted by newspaper editorials and criticism by law professors, political and public scrutiny began to develop over the automatic and secret process of choosing Supreme Court justices. This led to the *Code of Judicial Ethics*, to take the judicial map in 2004 of appearing before a parliamentary committee to discuss the pending appointments of justice Rosalie Abella and Justice Charron. Abella and Charron did not appear three weeks, and the committee did not have much of a discussion. Peter Mackay, an opposition MP at the time, described the hearing as window dressing.

In April 2005, Coder proposed a national process. A broad-based advisory committee would be struck each time there was a Supreme Court vacancy. The minister of justice would give this committee a list of candidates, and it would pick three of them for the prime minister's consideration. Otherwise, says not opposed Jacob Zegler, also professor at the University of Toronto, said the advisory committee "would simply act as a rubber stamp for the government's pre-selected list of candidates." What was striking about the proposal, he added, was "the government's obsessive obsession with preventing executive patronage into the 21st century."

A few months later, Coder had a chance to put his reformed process into practice. In August 2005, justice John Major announced he would leave the court at the end of the year. Coder appointed an advisory committee and gave it six months to consider. The committee, as instructed, pulled three. But, before an appointment could be made, the Paul Martin government was defeated and Stephen Harper became prime minister.

Harper stayed with his predecessor's list but, perhaps because it contained someone that appealed to him. He announced his choice on Feb. 23, 2006—Marshall Rothstein, a Fed-

eral Court of Appeal judge from Manitoba, thought to be as conservatively inclined. But surprisingly, perhaps showing his populist roots, Harper wanted Rothstein publicly interviewed by a parliamentary committee before he was sworn in.

The interview took place four days later. Committee members had obviously belatedly or no opportunity to do things you might expect of them—for example, read judgments written by Rothstein, or negotiate his qualifications. Professor Peter Hogg of Osgoode Hall Law School began the proceedings by

lauding the committee about what a should and should not do. "There are some questions that he [Rothstein] cannot be expected to answer." These questions were, of course, the very ones that most people wanted answered. And Hogg, "He cannot express views as an attorney that could come before the court. He cannot tell you how he would decide a hypothetical case. He cannot tell you which views are an important and issue..." John Major called the CBC that the hearing was ridiculous, and the professor Hogg was a grandstander and glad hander.

But with Rothstein's appointment, Supreme Court watchers heard a sigh of relief. No appointment was expected until 2013, when Justice Martin Binnie reached the mandatory retirement age of 75. Then came justice Michel Bastarache's surprise resignation last April, effective at the end of June. Bastarache, who is

A JUDGE MAY BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE PM WHO APPOINTS HIM



IRONICALLY, the process behind the otherwise sound appointment of Justice Tom Cromwell (right) to the Supreme Court

PHOTOGRAPH BY NANCY COBLE

PHOTOGRAPH BY NANCY COBLE

PHOTOGRAPH BY NANCY COBLE

from Newfoundland, occupied the reserved seats by courtesy for the Atlantic provinces.

On May 28, 2004, Justice Minister Nicholson announced yet another new process for choosing the new judge. To identify a pool of qualified candidates, Nicholson would consult with the attorneys general of the Atlantic provinces as well as leaders of members of the legal community. He would compile a list (modelled in consultation with the Prime Minister), which would then be reviewed in secret by a selection panel comprised of five members of Parliament—two from the government caucus and one from each of the opposition parties. The panel would provide a three candidate short list to the Prime Minister. The person chosen from the list by the Prime Minister would appear at a public hearing of a parliamentary committee. The committee would not have a veto power.

Cabinet ministers Christian Paradis and Diane Ablorain were appointed as the government representatives on the panel. Dominique LeBlanc was there for the Liberals, Jos Cormier for the NDP, and Neil Menard represented the Bloc Québécois before the first meeting of the panel, on Aug. 13. Cormier and Menard objected to cabinet ministers being members. "It's just about their responsibilities for the Prime Minister's Office," Cormier said. The first meeting was scheduled to take place on Sept. 14, but the beginning of September, two information members were cancelled because no government members were "yet available." On Sept. 5, two days before the call for election, Harper announced that Tim Cronwell was his choice for the advisory panel. Harper said it was his holding up the selection process. Panel member Dominique LeBlanc, a New Brunswick MP, was particularly offended. He insisted that meetings had been scheduled for that very week. LeBlanc said wistfully, "I was going to have the committee at my house in Grande-Gaspésie for a lobster dinner."

Cronwell was left in limbo, waiting for the election results. Perhaps he used the time to prepare for a public appearance before a parliamentary committee. If elected, it was a waste. Harper, in effect on Oct. 14, called Parliament into session on Nov. 16, but had it prorogued on Dec. 4. There was no time or inclination for a parliamentary committee to go through the crummy formalities of choosing someone the Prime Minister had chosen in a Supreme Court judge. On Dec. 12, Harper announced that Tim Cronwell was the new judge. He was sworn in on Jan. 5.



CHIEF JUSTICE Beverley McLachlin leads eight court judges

Not that there hadn't been months of speculation, and intense jockeying for advantage. Following Bouchette's resignation, many senior judges, lawyers and law professors from the Atlantic province must have gazed into a full-length mirror and dreamed of how well they would look in Supreme Court ornamental robes of bright sables trimmed with white ermine. Politicians from Eastern Canada got busy writing to prime Court representatives for their respective provinces. Want was louder than Newfoundland suggested (that one from the block had never been appointed to the Supreme Court; Newfoundland's justice minister, Joseph Kennedy, threatened, "I'd very day the Supreme Court of Canada pass judgments that affect the lives of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians and I believe a serious oversight has occurred by not allowing our province a voice in these decisions." He would later describe Cronwell's nomination as "a slap in the face.")

It took Russell Whangye, an editor at the St. John's *Telegraph*, to ask the obvious question: "What as a judge from this province supposed to do on the Supreme Court that a judge from another province wouldn't?" There was more. Right-wing commentators who dislike the Charter of Rights and Freedoms demanded someone with a strong commitment to the division of powers (read, the primacy of Parliament) be appointed. Human rights advocates, lobby of legislators

who might be swayed by narrow minded majority opinion, rallied against the old-fash school notion of parliamentary sovereignty. Other voices chafed at a woman should be appointed (that would mean a female majority on the court). We should have a judge from the West too.

The louder voices of all were based on the issue of bilingualism. John Major, a lifelong Alberta, observed that translation services at the court were excellent and the ability to speak both official languages should not be a prime concern. Claire L'Heureux Dubé, another retired Supreme Court judge, countered: "The principle is we are a bilingual country. Period." Liberal MP Dennis Coates listed prime minister's bilingualism as the Official Languages Act to require Supreme Court judges to be bilingual. (All the current judges, with the exception of Rothstein, are fluent in both languages.) The National Post called Coates's bill a "bad idea," Coates an "anglophobe," and compared the image of subjecting a Supreme Court candidate: "To a literacy test in some back room, with a proctor looking over his, and watch as hard, as he attempted to surmount the treacherous labyrinth."

Quebec's National Assembly voted unanimously to demand that only bilingual judges be appointed to the Supreme Court (read, it is not a request, it is a demand, and Premier Jean Charest, finally, Newfoundland Justice



THE VETTING INVOLVED NEITHER PARLIAMENT NOR THE PUBLIC

Minister Jennifer Newkome, at all odds up, had his own say on the subject. Spelling of Chief Justice Derek Goss of the Newfoundland Supreme Court, Kennedy said, "if he were appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada today, I'm sure he could be bilingual by the time it came to take his seat. He is that bright."

With that, the debate over bilingualism in the Supreme Court of Canada seemed mindfully over. A grateful narrator went back to the road, despite of summer. But Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin was still useful, and she said something about their bilingualism on her mind. McLachlin noted at the Canadian Bar Association convention in August that Michel Bouchette had considerable experience in corporate and commercial law, and it would be nice to maintain some balance on the court. Was the attempt to influence the new appointment? Secret said she was, and that it was improper.

Make no mistake, it matters a lot who is appointed to the Supreme Court. Its nine judges are among the most powerful people in Canada—perhaps the most powerful. That's because they possess the ability, freely embraced by the 1982

Charter of Rights and Freedoms, to strike down federal and provincial legislation. In the late 1960s, I was clerk to a Supreme Court justice, William Judd. An interprovincial law graduate, I argued him one day to give an aggressive judgment based on some policy argument or other that I thought might appeal to him (and appealed to me). His response? Judd gestured to Parliament's Centre Block, visible through the windows of his chambers, and said, in a tired but precise way, "That's for them to decide." Most of the judges of that and earlier generations felt exactly the way. Parliament, not the courts, was the place where law was made.

Now it is a different world. Since the 1980s, Charter, the social fabric of Canada has been changed by the Supreme Court, and continues to be changed, often in ways that astonish those who cling to the idea of parliamentary supremacy. In 1985, the Morgenson decision invalidated Canada's abortion law. The 1995 Sac Rodriguez case, contrary to what students of the Morgenson case might have expected, denied help to someone who wants to commit suicide and seek assistance. Delgamuë, in 1990, determined the extent of Aboriginal title. The 2004 case on marriage reform determined that the federal government can change the definition of marriage and give gays and lesbians the legal right to marriage. The Charron decision, in 2005, struck down a Quebec law banning private medical insurance. Thirteen years, the Laberge judgment held that groups are a commercial club did not afford the constitutional standard of tolerance. There are only a few examples of major issues decided by the Supreme Court of Canada since the Charter.

The Supreme Court's heavy hand is not always welcome. Not long ago, a retired law professor at the University of Western Ontario, Robert Martin, wrote an extraordinary book titled *My Dear Margaret Atwood: How the Supreme Court of Canada Has Undermined Our Law and Our Democracy*. Martin argues that the Supreme Court, in its pursuit of a left wing agenda, has derailed the legislative process or as opponents say, "by the Canada Bill has the Court been taking the role of the majority can easily become the tyranny of the minority, and that only the courts, badly defining and enforcing minority rights, stand in the way. Professor Kent Roach, of the University of Toronto, has advanced an appealing middle-of-the-road view. In his book, *The Supreme Court as Thief*, Roach argued that "the back and forth between courts and legislatures—allows people to participate in different ways through different avenues."

That debate is not unique to Canada. Anthony King graduated from Queen's Uni-

versity, went to Britain as a civilian Rhodes Scholar, and stayed there to become a Rhodes guided academic and political researcher. His book, *The British Constitution*, published in 2007, argues that a new constitution was envisaged in the United Kingdom since the 1870s. Britain's governing arrangement, he thinks, have been "substantially transformed." One important reason is the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into British law, forcing parliament to answer and giving judges new power. Oxford professor Sir John Eek, reviewing King's book in the *Times Literary Supplement*, commented, "With its new powers, the job they woke up from a long sleep, started to assert itself, and the senior judges themselves cooed into a political class of activists." Many would say that the case thing has happened to Canada. For good or ill, our senior judges have woken up from a long sleep and have become a new political class of activist.

As for the United States, the famous legal scholar Ronald Dworkin recently declared: "The revolution that many constitutionalists predicted when President Bush appeared two days after 9/11 was the Supreme Court's return to its original role of making important, and a resolution of justice to be decided for freedom and justice. Bush's choice, Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito, have proved to be previously more right-wing justices. Anthony Scalia and Clarence Thomas, in an unbecomingly pharisaic but revealing constitutional law by overruling, must often by itself, the central constitutional decision that generations of politicians, conservatives as well as liberals, had cemented."

When the prime minister chooses a Supreme Court of Canada judge, he chooses someone who, in the long haul of history, may turn out to be more important than he is. Former prime minister Paul Martin has named his first in the Eastern Townships, but the two Supreme Court judges he appointed, Rosalie Abella and Louise Chabot, are long writing judge who will be able to bring their own views to come if they remain on the court until the mandatory retirement age of 75 (Abella is 64, Chabot, 57). Tim Cronwell will turn 75 in 2023. When Stephen Harper will be in the years leading up to 2027 is anybody's guess.

It's impossible to say today what difference the Cronwell appointment will make to the Supreme Court. Cronwell seems generally Canadian—cautious, courteous, competent, middle of the road. He joins eight other justices with, by and large, the same characteristics. His court led by a disciplined and pragmatic chief justice, Beverley



JUSTICE ABELLA (left) was appointed in 2004

the Canadian Supreme Court's finishing post last. In 1997, there were 397 judgments handed down. In 2005, the Court gave 55 judgments, the lowest number since 1955. Some suggest the Court may be changing, or has become marginalised in recent years in important disputes and

IN THE U.S. THERE ARE PUBLIC, TELEVIEWED HEARINGS FOR JUDGES

McLellan. The Canadian Supreme Court is not ideologically divided like the U.S. court, where there is considered to be a right wing bloc (Roberts, Alito, Scalia and Thomas), a moderate grouping (Souter, Ginsburg, Breyer and Stevens), and the all-important swing vote, now in the hands of Justice Anthony Kennedy. And there is the curious fact of

seated elsewhere, in other ways.

Canadian governments get a free pass on Canada, the Supreme Court may become an ideological battlefield, with those on the left trying to use the law, and particularly the Charter, to undermine government policies they dislike. At the same time, a free press and changing economy could thrust complex business disputes into the judicial forefront, and create new difficulties in the Supreme Court only two of the justices, Binnie and Rothman, have significant backgrounds in commercial law.

One thing is certain. A better way of choosing Supreme Court judges must be found, and made mandatory by amendment to the Supreme Court Act. The new way must avoid the embarrassing confusion and uncertainty that surrounded the Cromptel appointment. It must recognise the constitutional importance and great power of a Supreme Court justice, and be reasonable. And it must operate very publicly. The best way of accomplishing these objectives is to require potential nominees to undergo a public, televised hearing.

In the United States, Supreme Court justices are nominated by the president and must be confirmed by the Senate following public, televised hearings where senators feel completely free to ask any question they like. These hearings can be brutal, as anyone old enough to remember the 1991 Clarence Thomas confirmation process will agree. Thomas' own comment at the time on his Senate confirmation hearings says the piece.

"This is a circus. It's emotional damage," Daniel, perhaps, a circus, maybe, but very valuable in 1983, Robert Bork, nominated by Ronald Reagan, was quoted by the *Washington Post* as saying for five days, only to be rejected. Linda Greenhouse, who covered the Supreme Court for the *New York Times* for a long time, recently wrote that the debate over the Bork nomination was "fair and profound," and became "a national referendum on the modern era of constitutional law." Over the last 40 years or so, other nominations have either been rejected by the U.S. Senate or withdrawn by the president when it became clear that rejection was likely.

Believe us the U.S. appointment process is, lately, a business as usual, as described to employees. In *The Next Partner Reporting the Supreme Court Appointment Process*, Christopher Engler, professor of Princeton University and former law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, argues that Americans need "a better way to talk about Supreme Court appointments, and they need it now, before any potential nomination the court's next justice." The U.S. appoints process, says Engler, is broken. The *New York Times* has weighed in on this subject: an editorial in April of last year said, "nominees should encounter a nominee's entire legal career" and the Senate "needs to upgrade the confirmation process."

The same is true in Spain of Canada's M

Philip Alston was dean of law at the University of Western Ontario, and a partner in a major Canadian law firm. He is the author of *Lawyers Gone Wild: Professions, Social Maladies in Canada's Legal History*, and is now working on a book about the Supreme Court.

Why M.B.A.s don't mind York's strike

BY EMILY BOHNER • When contract faculty and teaching assistants went on strike at York University in November, most students had their classes abruptly cancelled. Many—but not all. It turns out that while the Toronto university was willing to disrupt the programs of graduate and undergraduate students pursuing everything from arts to engineering, when it came to the more lucrative business and law schools, the students come first.

About 50,000 York students have been growing increasingly upset at the possibility of losing a year of studies due to the strike. But M.B.A. students at York's Schulich School of Business and law students at Osgoode Hall Law School—who pay at least three times the average undergraduate tuition fees—have been attending classes, strike or no strike. The university has also decided that graduating nursing students and international undergraduate exchange business students—who pay three times more than Canadian

by union members "All of Osgoode's 300 first-year students are taught at least one class by CUPE members, and now they are being told that they have no idea when their classes will resume," he says.

The second reason York has categorised the business and law programs, says Blyth, is that students in those schools have career and financial goals that are difficult to work around. "In those cases, we had no control of first calendar," he says. "We would not be able to rework those programs."

Yet students in other faculties point out that many reasons of study have deadlines to meet. It's true that graduating law students need to arrive, but why at that more important time, say, an internship for an engineering student? Some note as well that some of those hard dates for law and business students are more flexible than they appear. Law students, for example, can write their law admission exams in November or March rather than June.

Meanwhile, the international exchange students at Schulich continue to enjoy classes, while foreign students on other programs sit at home. "I've had calls from parents in Dubai, Vancouver, Mexico and the Caribbean warning them to book a flight for their kids," admits Blyth.

Some professors in the law and business schools are also angry. They're upset that faculty in other schools are helping striking workers by refusing to cross picket lines, while professors in the law and business schools have to work. "A picket line represents a call for solidarity," says Osgoode professor "There are many of us who feel that crossing a picket line to teach is a very unpleasant thing to have to do."

The striking local staff is particularly unrepresented by the union. "Basically they are trying to undermine the strength we have as a union, which is to speak from our labours," says Tyler Shapley, a spokeswoman for the more than 1,000 members of CUPE 3969. "It really was a slap in the face."

But despite complaints from faculty and workers, it's still the students who are suffering the most. After this week, the union membership vote to reject York's business schools, which included a 25 per cent pay hike over three years, so there will still need to be a fight. If the school board doesn't decide the strikers back to work, it's likely that York's students won't finish the current year well into the summer, at best. Unless, of course, they happen to be building lawyers or financiers. ■

Beaten good Samaritan lied, say cops

BY MICHAEL BOHNER • A victim the lead on deep the skull is expected needs to attract attention, it is a gas station or a highway side. So last January, when a bloodied Jane Brundell was talking to a police officer near Boston, Alta, 149 km (92 miles) from York, an Ontario Id. compelled to ask what might have



THE FIRST good Samaritan never faced public mischief charges

happened. Brundell, then 24 and from an RCMP family (his father is retired from the force), had a compelling story to tell. "Too bad it may not have been true."

While driving along the Trans-Canada, Brundell said, he had come across a car in trouble and stopped to help only to receive a beating from three men armed with poppers and bottles. Brundell said he helped his assailants to flee before driving, bleeding and confused, into the store for gas.

Brundell's statement prompted police to collect fingerprints and DNA from his car and issues press release. The story went out across the country. "Good Samaritans will now turn their eye after being beaten while lending a hand," ran a *National Post* headline. And Brundell's story prompted a knock for a parole hearing. "If there was a blood, half-naked chick running away from a guy with a chainsaw, I wouldn't stop," he told a reporter. "As coffee and cold beer as it is to me, I just can't put myself in risk anymore." Many Canadians agreed, deploring good Samaritans wasn't such a good idea.

But last week, a next story to the day after his "attack," the RCMP issued him of false-sounding the scuffle and changed him with public scrutiny. "I think at the time, it probably started out as one of those big fish story," says RCMP Cpl. Donovan Fisher. Brundell told the *Calgary Herald* he's visiting his family. The change arrived because police have been busy investigating how Brundell, who lives just outside Calgary, really carried his injuries—a trauma that may lead to even more serious charges. ■

The War Amps

We are many things to many people.

CHAMP provides child amputees with financial assistance for educational funds. Programs like Matching Mothers, JUMPSTART, and WEBMASTERS offer special help.

The War Amps... a legacy of "amputees helping amputees."



War Amps CEO Cliff Goodwin with members of the CHAMP Program for child amputees

For more information, or to order your 2009 toy bags, contact: The War Amps.
E-ZEE ACCESS TEL: 1 800 256-3030, FAX: 1 800 219 0368
or visit our Web site at www.waramps.ca
Charitable Registration No. 13196 9628 93000



MITCHEL RAPHAEL ON IGNATIEFF'S PROMISE TO HIS WIFE AND RAE'S PROBLEM WITH FACEBOOK

SOMEONE TELL OBAMA: REAL LEADERS HAVE CATS

U.S. President Barack Obama promised his daughters a puppy if he made it to the White House in Canada, if you were to lead a federal party you'd better have a cat. Liberal system leader Michael Ignatieff proved his wife, Zuzanna Zolotor, that if they ever moved into a place larger than their Ottawa or Toronto condos he'd get her two cats. Ironically, Iggy's new dogs, should be big enough. This means that now every leader of a national party in Canada will have at least one cat. (Sophie Dion used to be the odd person out with his white-busty feline.) The Harper crew already have two permanent cats. Five-year-old Gypsy "came to us as a starving very old looking cat from the Ottawa Humane Society," notes Laureen Harper. Gypsy likes to watch birds and squirrels from the windows of 24 Sussex.

Three other permanent cats, Caroline, now 15 and quite arthritic, came with them from Calgary and was Stephen Harper's gift to his wife for her 70th birthday. NDP leader Jack Layton and his MP wife, Olivia Chow, have adopted a black cat named George who was previously owned by Chow's former aide Nathan Rotman. Rotman was allergic to felines and finally had to give George up. Chow makes him periodic reports on George, who, she says, is as high on painkillers as the couple's cat, Mue (Chinese for "little cat"). Secretary and aide when Layton and Chow adopted her, Mue got better, developed an attitude, and rarely lets anyone pet her. The next day's report says George, says Chow, comes when you call him and loves being petted. Chow's number one whiner in the Layton-Chow house, tries



JACK LAYTON, Olivia Chow and George (top left), Martha Hall Findlay (top right), Marc Chabot (middle right) with circle inset of Sir John A. Macdonald, Stephen and Laureen Harper with circle inset of their cat Gypsy (lower left), Bob Rae (lower right)

to make sure George does not sit on the couch. But when Layton cannot hear, the cat leaves the indoor-outdoor window and jumps. George, Leader Elisabeth May has a cat from the Ottawa Humane Society named Blaise in her New Glasgow, N.S. home. So far, so good. But it could take her a while to find her for her 24 Sussex. A 50th birthday gift to Ignatieff's 10-year-old son, Noah, May 11. "There has never been a time in my life when I have been without a dog. Not once."

according to Marc Chabot, who used to be Michael Ignatieff's aide and is now the executive director of the Dominion Institute, the master of the cat. While these were prepared Canadian luxury students, Chabot's sadly notes that 65 per cent of Canadians do not know Macdonald was Canada's first prime minister. In 2002, Parliament passed a bill recognizing Jan. 11 as Sir John A. Macdonald Day and Nov. 18 as Sir Wilfrid Laurier Day. Since then, "Nothing has been done to recognize the bird days," says Chabot. The institute's program of 294 historical anniversaries is www.mactheatre.com.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER TOGETHER TIME—WELL, SORT OF

Thomas Lobart MP Martha Hall Findlay has been consulting Canadian across the country in Liberalism. Have their own budget ready in the event the conditions take over. Hall Findlay took only a few days off—to join her daughter Katie Findlay for a dining holiday in Revelstoke, B.C. Unfortunately, Katie broke her leg just before Hall Findlay arrived and had to sit out the dining in the chair as her mom, who was advertising the 2010 Canadian ski championships, called: "the highest verticle in Canada."

THE RAE'S, 600

If Bob Rae's website, www.bobrae.com, has more Facebook friends. His status recently noted he "wrote Facebook to tell the thing on the number of friends I'm allowed to have." He was about to hit the 5,000 milestone. ■

ON THE WEB: For more Ottawa columns or to contact Mitch Raphael, visit mitchraphael.com



CAN YOU IMAGINE THE NEXT 52 WEEKS?

A SMART INVESTMENT FOR 2009 THAT'S GUARANTEED TO DELIVER.
VISIT WWW.MACLEANS.CA

MACLEANS
MAKE SENSE OF IT ALL



OBAMA

On Jan. 20 in Washington, D.C., Barack Obama made history by becoming the first African-American President of the United States





GEORGE W. BUSH with former vice president Dick Cheney, in wheelchair (top left); singer Beyoncé and her husband, hip-hop artist and entrepreneur Jay-Z; Vice President Joe Biden and Jill Biden; Obama's chief of staff, Rahm Emanuel



the usually smooth chief justice of the Supreme Court. In his prompt Obama, Roberts reminded the word "Gotham" in the oath of office that is spoken out in the Constitution. "I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." Roberts's mistake of punning the "faithfully" after "United States" which Obama dutifully repeated, raised chatter among conspiracy theorists that perhaps Obama was not actually President after all. (Obama is suspected of confusion for the fact that

Obama had vowed against Roberts's confirmation in the Senate.) But the crowd had no doubts who the new President was. They had cheered as Roberts presided, as a three-time awarded law lecturer, sang My Country 'Tis of Thee, and did solemn during a haunting performance by a quartet that included violinist Itzhak Perlman and cellist Yo-Yo Ma. (Per Elizabeth Alexander read "Poem Song for the Day," which included a line that captured the emotional and erratic part of that day: "Say it please: they have died for this day.") Obama's long-anticipated inaugural address

was a speech created more for the moment than for the history books. Perhaps its most memorable lines were not ones that it will be quoted decades from now, but which resonated with Americans dealing with an economic crisis that has claimed millions of jobs, and every day brings more lost jobs, home foreclosures, and lost health care coverage. "Today I say to you that the challenges we face are real, they are serious and they are many. They will not be solved easily or in short spans of time. But know this, America: they will be met," Obama said. "Barring today, we must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves

READ FROM THE INauguration 2009: THE HISTORY OF A VERY SPECIAL DAY. BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS.



HILLARY CLINTON (above, center) with Bill Clinton (left) and George H.W. Bush (directly behind her) followed by Barbara Bush and former president Jimmy Carter (then backless). Jesse Jackson with Barack Obama, promoter Don King, rapper and politician Sean Combs





off, and began again the work of re-making America."

Obama's speech hit themes familiar from his campaign, such as bipartisanship and efficient and open government. "What the cynics fail to understand is that the ground has shifted beneath them, that the stale political arguments that have consumed us for so long, no longer apply," he said. "The question we ask today is not whether our government is too big or too small, but whether it works, whether it helps families find jobs at a decent wage, care they can afford, a future that is dignified. Where the answer is yes, we intend to move forward. Where the answer is no, progress will end."

He sent a message of new friendship to

nations around the world: "To all other peoples and governments who are watching today, from the grandest capitals to the small village where my father was born, know that America is a friend of each nation and every man, woman and child who seeks a future of peace and dignity, and we are ready to lead once more." And, he added, "To the Muslim world, we seek a new way forward, based on mutual interest and mutual respect."

The new President attacked few thornily veiled topics at the Bush administration's policies and "Recall that earlier generations faced down fascism and Communism not just with rifles and tanks, but with sturdy alliances and enduring convictions." And in a reference to Bush's policies in the war on terror, he said,

"As for our common defense, we reject to false the choice between our safety and our ideals. Our founding fathers, faced with perils that we can scarcely imagine, drafted a charter to assure the rule of law and the rights of man, a charter expanded by the blood of generations. Those ideals still light the way, and we will not give them up for expedient's sake."

Despite the Christian prayers that preceded and closed the ceremony, Obama acknowledged America as a "nation of Christians and Muslims, Jews and Hindus, and non-believers. We are shaped by every language and culture, drawn from every end of the earth. And because we have raised the banner of civil war and reconciliation and redemption



PRESIDENT OBAMA, Michelle Obama walk along the parade route (above); Bill and Hillary Clinton drop left; Sasha Obama waves to the crowd

from that dark chapter arrange and gone untold, we cannot help but believe that the old handshake someday pass, that the lines of tribe shall soon dissolve, that as the world grows smaller, our common humanity shall reveal itself, and that America must play its role in ushering in a new era of peace."

Obama did not refer to himself in the first African American president, but he did as "a man whose father less than 60 years ago might not have been served in a local restaurant," and who could "have ended before you to take a most sacred oath." Juan Se-Went, a 36-year-old African American attorney from Miami, could barely find words for his emotion as he watched Obama's transformation

into President. "This is just unbelievable. I am nervous. It's overwhelming. It's unbelievable," said Se-Went, an immigrant from Haiti. "This is the day that the Lord has made." As for the speech, "It was serene. It was inclusive of all of us."

Following the inauguration, the Obamas and the Bishops graciously bid farewell to the Bushes and the Clintons. But after the former president and vice president were escorted into helicopters, there were some partisan sentiments among the crowd watching on JumboTron screens on the National Mall as their arrival hovered above the capital. Washingtonian Anne Seymour, who had volunteered for the Obama campaign in October

and arrived at the inauguration planning to Obama buttons and Obama t-shirt, gleefully took pictures of the Bush-Clinton departure. "I'm feeling really good now that I can say 'bye bye! Don't call us!'"

Seymour said she was shocked by the calm and discrimination in Obama's speech. "When he said 'pick yourself up and brush yourself off'—that's what we all have to do. We have to fix the future together," said Seymour, who was hosting 20 guests from two countries and states in her home. "It's the worst economy and two wars going on, but as a people we are going to be able to rock this—with him as our fearless leader." ■

—By Lance Ch. Savage

OBAMA: KAREN BLUMENFELD/GETTY IMAGES; CLINTON: STEVE GRANITZ/GETTY IMAGES; OBAMA: STEVE GRANITZ/GETTY IMAGES

COVER: MICHAEL O'NEILL



LARACK and Michelle Obama at the first inaugural ball of the evening, 1800s singer Kanye West (lower right) entertains at the South Ball, Sheryl Crow performs at the Midwestern Ball



THE GRAPAS at the Commander-in-Chief Ball (top left); then, clockwise) singer Hannah Georgy; Obama dances; Beyoncé sings at the Neighborhood Ball; Vice President Joe Biden and Jill Biden



STUDIED IN CONNECTION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY



RACE

What will change for Americans now that their President has more melanin in his skin? BY LUIZA CH. SAVAGE

I could have been mistaken for a religious pilgrim. The spirit of the crowds that gathered was not loudly partisan. There was jubilation to be sure, but the overriding feeling was solemn. The sense of history being made was an every corner, from the Sunday breakfast and cashmere coats in the crowd to the inexpressible conservative Obama-bait being hawked everywhere. A desire among the crowds who braved the cold to be easily personae to bear witness, to breathe the same air, to be part of this national ceremony that promised a renewal, a national immersion of sorts. In an *Amer* as beaten down by recession and wars, they

had come to see with their own eyes the making of the first Black President.

As many as two million people were present for President Barack Obama's inauguration. Two days before, some 400,000 had come together for a concert at the United Nations in New York City. It was here that Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. proclaimed in 1961 that he had a dream, and now the son of a white mother from Kansas and a father from Kenya was in the process of fulfilling it. Obama's face was everywhere on the massive banners draping the neoclassical columns of the white monumental buildings in the city, on banners, T-shirts, a sea of magazine covers, his smile emblazoned on everything from tote bags to earrings.

His inauguration scene usage has been compared to the propaganda posters of a Third World disease. But the images aren't. Washington were not authoritarian, or menacing, often they were downright devotional, showing Obama with his eyes upturned, almost Christ-like, in a private consultation with

the heavens. While the religious overtones of his exuberant following have been compared to a cult of personality, and Oprah Winfrey's description of him as "The One" became the target of paranoiac mockery, the inauguration, more crowded and emotionally charged than any in memory, suggested that the excitement was less about the cult of Obama than about a ceremony awaited ritual for the nation.

The First Black President. The size of the ceremony—could it be finally captured? The parade and the pomp, while evoking a long-awaited end of the Bush era, seemed to mark some thing deeper, a purification of the original sin—a nation built in part on slavery and in which blacks in many southern states still did not have a meaningful right to vote until 1965. Was that sense of cleansing real, or the self-delusion of those who had made this moment happen: black and white Americans alike?

Certainly for black Americans, inauguration day, with its embossed invitations and elaborate balls, was the grandest possible

CHRISTOPHER WOODWARD/GETTY IMAGES

JOHN THORNTON/GETTY IMAGES





GRAT EXPECTATIONS: Roosevelt (left) set a dizzying pace; most American trust Obama to reverse the downturn, Lincoln (below)

have spoken frequently. Many presidents have admired the man who led the country through the Civil War, the age, his few hours' ride, or thought as much about this. "Lincoln has clearly become a person in his heart and mind." The attraction has many facets—a man of passion for writing and action, their shared Obama backgrounds, the rise of America's first black President fulfilling the promise of the man who set the first free man on a journey, Good was behind. "When we first talked it was nearly about Lincoln's emotional strength, how extraordinary it was that this man was able to have a certain kind of accuracy and quiet confidence during this time," she says. Now it's other things: how the 16th president was able to face a calmer from "the strongest and most able men" regardless of their political differences. Her task for communicating complex challenges to the public and still inspiring the sense of optimism they craved. His courage in the face of adversity.

The challenges that President Obama faces are substantial: a global economic crisis, two pending wars, the erosion of America's standing in the world, a shaken faith at home. And the expectations for his success are even greater. He has promised to work for peace in the Middle East, bring Iran to the table, and deliver the Taliban and their terrorist allies in Afghanistan. His ambitious domestic agenda includes a massive expansion of public health care, a shift toward green technology and energy self-sufficiency, and a pledge to provide help for struggling homeowners, along with tax breaks for low- and

middle-income earners. All steep hills to climb, even as paucity of taxes, made even harder to conquer by spiraling unemployment, a staggering stock market, and a trillion-dollar hole in the U.S. budget.

Even so, say that these expectations are unreasonably high in an endorsement. It's gone over the top," says Joan Hoff, the former director of the Center for the Study of the Presidency in New York City, now a senior professor of history at Montana State University. "The current state of the problems we currently face in the next four years. There's no way in hell." "While he's clearly not the first president to have to contend with the ups of the Internet and the 24-hour news cycle, Obama has harnessed the power of that technology in a way that may end up complicating his life. He's a global mega-celebrity," Hoff notes, his every move and utterance closely scrutinized. "The World Wide Web allowed to crowd on Tuesday as people all over the globe tried to download video and even aspects of the inauguration."

And the very qualities that have raised these expectations and named Obama into such a phenomenon—his charisma, emotional nature, and belief in—and ability to—change, rather than manage—in a country that has developed an almost pathological distrust of its "elites." Obama is the first openly intellectual president since Woodrow Wilson, argues Hoff. "We live in a time when, in our political system," she says "it's a cruel irony he's going to have to walk."

In fact, many suggest that the 44th President might be better off receiving experience from another one of his revered predecessors,

Franklin Delano Roosevelt. When FDR took the oath of office in March 1933, he faced an even greater economic crisis—25 per cent unemployment, a stock market that had lost 90 per cent of its value, the shuttering of banks and widespread failure of businesses, with millions reduced to living on the bread lines. And while the inspirational words of his inaugural address, "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself," have lived on, it is his accomplishments over four difficult years



stretching through depression and global war that secured his place in history. "Franklin Roosevelt was a buoy for the American people," says Mark Updegrave, author of the newly released biography *Fire Right: The Story of Who Took Office in Times of Crisis*. Coming into office, he Obama, on the heels of a supremely unpopular Republican president, Herbert Hoover, FDR raised his personal popularity and strong mandate to his advantage, using a dizzying pace during his first 100 days in office, pushing a legislative bill through Congress. It was that



fast, more than the initiatives or reforms, that gave Americans hope, says Updegrave, who says that Roosevelt's masterful use of the technology of the day—radio and newspapers—to communicate his message. "It restored confidence and spoke of good things to come," he says. "The timing for Barack Obama, that he began the message of good things for the American people."

The early indications are that Obama has already observed this lesson and intends to put it to use. The need for immediate and

Obama seems to have grasped that calamities also provide him with unique opportunities

far-reaching action to meet the country's many challenges was the central theme of his inaugural address. "It remains the most pressing, powerful mission on earth. Our workers are so far productive; then when calamities. Our markets are so lucrative, our goods and services are so successful, they were lost with or lost most or lost just. Our capacity remains diminished. But one time of standing up, of protecting sacred interests and putting off unpleasant decisions, that first has only passed. Start today, we must pick ourselves up, dust

ourselves off, and begin again the work of rebuilding America," the new President stated. And he added a subtly veiled warning to his political opponents, that they should find themselves on the wrong side of history should they seek to "in his hands." "Now, there are some who question the scale of our ambitions—who suggest that our system cannot deliver too many big plans," he said. "These moments are those. For they have forgotten what this country has already done: what free men and women can achieve when imagination is joined to common purpose, and necessity to courage."

However, to pull down U.S. politics, such accusations are probably not even worth a thought out to U.S. Americans have a favorable opinion of Obama as he takes office, according to a new ABC News/Washington Post poll. Almost three-quarters of the public trust that his proposals will help reverse the economic downturn. And 71 per cent say that his overhauling electoral system has given him "a mandate to work for major new social and economic programs." Allen J. Lichtman, a political historian at American University in Washington, says that at present, Obama enjoys almost unlimited power. "Congress is just like Wall Street—acted on fear and greed. And right now, they are too afraid of sounding like fools that they might as well let Obama."

At almost modern history, when the new President also seems to have grasped is that the calamities he faces also provide him with unique opportunities. Crisis has long been the crucible of greatness, and almost all in the pantheon of American political heroes—Washington, Lincoln, FDR, Kennedy—were severely tested. "Obama's moment must great now," says Mark Updegrave. He also told Roosevelt, who won a place on the side of Mount Rushmore for his courage for social justice, the Panama Canal, and winning the 1956 Nobel Peace Prize, in perhaps the only reward U.S. president to have given in "non-challenging" times. It's a subtle clue that Bill Clinton, for example, will never live, despite his early promise and vast personal popularity. His accomplishments will be judged too late, argues Updegrave, and his presidency was finally tainted by the Monica Lewinsky scandal. "The times were just not on his side."

But Obama's Goodness takes a similar view of the calamities and opportunities Obama's faces. "There's a reason why so many of our greatest leaders have been winning presidents," he says. "It's a time of crisis they have had terrible challenges but also greater opportunities to really move the country because people came together." It's a phenomenon that Obama will understand well if he understands

to himself, says the historian. "It gives him an opportunity to do more things than he would otherwise be able to do in our separation of powers government."

What Obama may want to keep in mind is that the cheering throngs, sky-high polling numbers and editorial endorsements mean he's short-lived. It's the will of the fickle, it's a shock, George W. Bush had an 89 per cent approval rating. By the time he left office this week, it was somewhere around 30 per cent, and only 16 per cent of respondents said he will go down in history as an "outstanding" or even "above average" president. Indeed, Herbert Hoover, former secretary of commerce and global hero for his efforts to feed the starving people of Belgium during the First World War, seemed doomed for greatness when he ascended to the presidency in 1929. "The newspaper accounts were just glowing," says Allen Lichtman. "They said, 'the one thing we won't have to worry about with Herbert Hoover is the economy.'"

The stock market crash of October 1929 quickly changed all this. And in the economy imploded, Hoover seemed incapable, or unwilling, to take meaningful action—in 1931 alone, a 300-million dollar loss in the U.S. financed by the nation he had witnessed in Belgium. The president refused to raise the money lenders first seized the land. And rather than listen to the public's complaints, he insisted on continuing to do what they learned in the classroom. "I can't imagine that the American people aren't willing to listen for an hour to the subjects that are vital to their lives," he wrote later his exasperated advisers. "He was not the man behind was in the country, his very name synonymous with failure. The card board and his shyness were called 'Hoovervilles,' the newspapers the poor huddled under 'Hoover blankets.'" Their rage soon labelled him "President Bayou." Just months of the public came to believe rumors that he had a hand in one of the early greatest disasters, the kidnapping and murder of the Lindbergh baby. It was a transformation that haunted him for the rest of his long life. He died in 1964 at the age of 90. "The fall from his lofty expectations added to his own and personal misery," says Lichtman.

And it's an example that Obama should heed for more than a couple of months. However, for a great admirer of Lincoln, apart from his biographers, Richard Norton Smith. "The White House was staffed with men of the 16th president. And when he was told of Lincoln, Hoover even carried a steel engraving of the Great Emancipator. Proof that being a keen student of history isn't enough to guarantee that an American president will be among its survivors." ■

WHITE HOUSE STYLE GLAMOUR FOR THE PEOPLE

Since day one, American presidents and their wives have wrestled with the question: how much pomp is too much? BY LIANNE GEORGE



DRESSING UP

The trick is to broadcast 'for the people' without descending into 'of the people' territory

THE GLAMOROUS ONES: (clockwise from left) the Kennedys, America's royal couple, Nancy Reagan's \$10,000 gown; Mary Todd Lincoln, the 'great clothes horse'; Dolly Madison was a celebrated hostess; a dapper Franklin D. Roosevelt; Bill Clinton (announced late-night TV

In a recent interview, fashion doyenne Donna Karan identified Barack Obama as the epitome for her spring 2009 men's collection, describing his style as that of "a relaxed man who doesn't need to fret much to show he has power." Perhaps better than anyone, the Obamas have mastered the high-low aesthetic. Michelle Obama, it is well-established, looks equally at home in a Marcia Rodiano gown and a J Crew dress. The President shops at Banana, but insists he wears the same suit repeatedly, even to the point of patching them up. Indeed, despite the GQ covers, Obama is not in stylish bad designer Tim Ford can't see reason for improvement. "I think he's a great looking guy," Ford told *Entire* magazine, "but I think his suits don't fit him very well." "We know that each U.S. president is a living symbol of the type of America he intends to manifest. In style terms, Barack Obama is the proud old equivalent of the Franklin D. Roosevelt. He is, in New York Times "Sunday Style" parlance, populist folkwear. Since day one, American presidents have wrestled with the question: how much pomp is too much? "When they created the American presidency in 1789," says Harry Rubenstein of the Smithsonian's National Museum

of American History, "they combined the duties and functions of both a monarchy and a theocracy into one office—and this has been a problem for presidents ever since." On the one hand, America is a democracy created as a violent rebuke of imperialist European empires. On the other hand, as people want a leader they can proudly showcase on the world stage—and, let's face it, Americans love the glitz. And so the trick for each new president has been to broadcast "for the people," without descending into "of the people" territory.

President-elect George Washington struggled to attain this elusive balance. Washington, personification of the revolution, refused John Adams's idea to refer to him, and subsequent presidents, as "Your Royal Highness or Protector of Our Liberties," opting instead for the much more subtle moniker, Mr. President. On the other hand, a fan of pomp and ceremony, Washington designed the "Presidential Palace," now the White House, to mirror the grandeur of the palaces of France's Louis XVI and England's George III (the place was obviously too grand and had to be sold back). Even with the modifications, when Thomas Jefferson, with his more understated style, came into office in 1801, he remarked the White House was "big

enough for two emperors, one pope, and the grand lions."

The idea of a glamorous first lady didn't come about until Dolly Madison, wife of president James Madison (1809-1817), who was not only stylish—with an affinity for French culture—but also a business extraordinaire, and the first first lady to have her husband's inaugural ball. "Mrs. Madison was like Mrs. Kennedy in her day," says Patricia Meves, deputy director of the Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York. "Not just her clothing, but she knew how to entertain gracefully, how to decorate. She really understood that the White House was a symbol of what America could be."

After Madison, the idea of the first lady as an important part of presidential style-making took hold. Others openly embraced high style. "Mrs. Lincoln was famous for her love of luxury. She was considered the ultimate dress horse of all the first ladies," says Meves. "But I don't think the concept of glamour and the White House really came into being until Jacqueline Kennedy."

In 1961, a mere 11 years after the early days of the TV era when John and Jackie Kennedy entered the White House. They were the youngest and most attractive first couple the office had ever seen. The three preceding first ladies—



DRESSING DOWN

The Carters' style may have fit the times, but it depressed people to look at them



THE UNADORNED (clockwise from left) Jimmy and Rosalind Carter chose inaugural "party" over "bells, whistles and Momus; Eleanor Roosevelt, before her second-term makeover; Franklin Roosevelt's wife, Eleanor; the Hillary Clintons of her time

Marie Therese Jones, Ben Yaron and Eleanor Roosevelt—while beloved, had been rather dowdy, says Means. Then Mrs. Kennedy walked in with her sculptural hair, pillbox hat, costume gloves, real Bulgari and European refinement. "You can see why people just went, 'Giddy-Giddy!'" says Means. "It makes a stronger, unified picture when both husband and wife are equally glamorous. When there's an affinity, a physical affinity for one another, they reflect each other's good physical attributes, [and] it gives an even more positive message."

What a lot of people may not realize, she points out, is that Jackie Kennedy, like her husband, was extremely media savvy. "They both understood, as the Obamas do, that technology was going to have a great deal of influence," she says. "How you looked on television, then becoming the ultimate medium by which Americans were getting their news, was extremely important."

But despite the Council on Style—perpetrated both inside and outside the office—the White House was still a pugilist platform. The fact that the public could now see the president's choices in unadorned detail meant that the Kennedys learned to play down their wealth. Her wardrobe, too, had

room suits for bill and American ones. She ordered her French couture—Givenchy, Chanel, Balmain—through American retailers so she could say it was acquired locally. Many of her most famous looks were attributed to the French-born American designer Oleg Cassini. "But there's still a great deal of controversy today whether or not Oleg Cassini really designed her clothes," says Means.

White House glamour dipped with the Ford and the Nixon eras, and for what is considered a historic low during the administration of Jimmy Carter, who came to the White House at the height of the moonshot of the '70s. The Carters wanted to eliminate waste. Just as, he told off the presidential yacht, the Sequoia, as a cost-cutting move. Carter wore a US\$175 business suit to his wedding ceremony. His wife, Rosalind, wore the same plain, off-the-rack dress she'd worn to her husband's gubernatorial inauguration, and people were appalled. Instead of riding in a limousine, they walked along the parade route and shook hands with people. "The didn't have inauguration balls," says Rubenstein. "If you look at his inauguration, he was with people to inaugural parties." There were questions that he took it too far in the other direction. His approach may have fit the

times, but it depressed people to look at. With the arrival of Ronald and Nancy Reagan in 1981, a new high water mark for White House glam was set. A good-looking couple with Hollywood connections and a taste for the finer things, they spent a whopping US\$16 million on inaugural festivities. Frank Sinatra performed, and Nancy Reagan wore a US\$10,000 hand-beaded gown by Galanos, an American designer. As no to be expected, there were critics, notably Barry Goldwater, who said, "When you've got to pay \$1,000 for a limousine, \$7 to park and \$1.50 to check your coat at a time when most Americans can't back it, that's extortion."

In 1993, when Bill Clinton came to office—after George and Barbara Bush, a gang, had ruled barely from the Second World War era—he brought us a whole new sort of glam. For one thing, he broke the record for the number of official balls held. 34 of them, at a cost of US\$13 million, and he parted at them all. "Clinton had this way of presenting himself as America's first rock 'n' roll president," says McQueen, chair of the Department of Public and Political Administration at the University of Connecticut, and author of several books on the American presidency. "When Clinton was in office, it was sort of like a People magazine

Exclusive Offer for Rogers customers

GET Chatelaine AT THE GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICE WITH CONVENIENT MONTHLY BILLING

Chatelaine is published by Rogers so this exclusive offer is available with your Rogers billing for Cable TV, Wireless, Internet or Home Phone services. Get Chatelaine, Canada's #1 magazine for women, added to your Rogers bill* for only \$1 per month! You're not locked in and you can cancel at any time. It couldn't be simpler.

Chatelaine is now bolder and more enjoyable than ever before with even more recipes, health advice, smart money tips and stylish fashion and beauty ideas. Chatelaine, first for Canadian Women.

Go to chatelaine.com/easy and start today!

*Monthly pricing includes delivery in Canada; taxes extra. You will have two months' notice of any rate change. If you cancel, charges will stop on your next Rogers bill. Chatelaine is published 13 times a year.

Rogers publishes many of Canada's favourite magazines which are available to Rogers customers at the guaranteed lowest price. Go to www.rogers.com/magazines

Get Chatelaine for only \$1 per month!

ROGERS

OVER 50% SOLD OUT!

THE BOOK LOVER'S BALL

In support of Toronto Public Library,
the busiest urban public library
system in the world.

EVENT CO-CHAIRS HONORARY PATRON
DONNA HAYES / GOLD MARTIN MARGARET EDWARDS
HONORARY CHAIR
MARTIN DAVIS HELLER

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2009
THE FAIRMONT ROYAL YORK

Dine with Canada's leading authors including: M.G. Vassag, Christine
Blackford, Vincent Lam and The Right Honourable Paul Martin. Afterwards
enjoy an exclusive fashion show celebrating 60 years of Harlequin romance,
and featuring stunning couture designs from top Canadian designers.

BOOK YOUR TABLES OR TICKETS TODAY!
WWW.BOOKLOVERSBALL.CA
416.363.7237

LIBRARY
FOUNDATION Toronto's Library Absolutely Vital

PRESENTING SPONSOR
HARLEQUIN



EVENT SPONSOR
TD Bank Financial Group

DINNER SPONSOR
WHITEHOTS

PRIZE SPONSOR
Fairmont

PRINT SPONSOR
ATPH

MEDIA SPONSORS
TORONTO
STAR
iFC

MACLEAN'S
MAGAZINE

His BFF's party said, but when their out-
stuck of home to Isabel Toledo and J. Crew
sine reunion. He let the celebrities see the
Lincoln Bedroom in the White House, then
Hilary would go there." He would do things
like appear on *The Phil Donahue Show*, play
sophomore on *The Arsenio Hall Show*, and
visit MTV. "They asked him, do you wear
bowers or briefs?" says Orman. "Normally
presidents don't get asked questions like that.
He was participating in new media."

There was a national fascination with
Bill and Hillary Clinton—specifically, their
odyssey as a couple. "He comes across as
the screen-looking figure and seems to be
more at ease with human form in terms of appear-
ance and dress," says Meers. "I think Mrs.
Clinton has struggled a bit with that." In
the early days of his presidency, Hillary
dressed plainly, with minimal makeup. For
her clothes, she relied on an *Armani*-based
designer, and was usually hairbrushed. By the time Clinton was sworn in for a second
term in 1992, she had learned the importance
of appearance—and raised the ante
with new hair, new makeup and an Oscar
de la Renta gown (not that this has quipped
her critics).

Laura Bush underwent a parallel style
evolution during her White House stay.
When her husband was sworn in in 2001,
she sported a Dallas designer named Michael
Farrar, best known for dressing Texan
matrons and the Dallas Cowboys cheerlead-
ers. By 2005, Bush's second awareness, the
too had switched to Oscar de la Renta. In
fact, she wore a different gown to each of
her inaugural balls that year. The total cost
of the fashions was \$3442.3 million, the
most expensive inaugural celebration in
history to that point.

The glamour of the Obama family is not
that of the dynamic Kennedys, even though
both are young, effortlessly stylish and
athletic (see his buff vacation photos). Nor is it
that of the Reagans, with their Hollywood
pedigree, even though there is no denying
the Obamas' star power. The Obamas are
adored by celebrities—from Oprah to Will
Aren to Scarlett Johansson—but unlike Bill
Clinton, who seemed to love nothing more
than a celebrity photo op, they keep stars at
arm's length so as not to appear frivolous or
pandering.

They always look impeccable, and yet it
doesn't feel like they're products of teams of
stylists. "Mrs. Obama is fascinating because
it's very unusual to see an American go this
far in terms of experimenting with young
designers," says Meers. "Some of the risks
she's taken I think have not been as well
received, but then that's she's wearing Nina
Rocci Rodriguez, Jason Wu, Isabel Toledo—



POPULIST FABULOUS

They always look impeccable, yet it doesn't look like
they're the product of teams of stylists

people even comment on future gowns don't
really wear—I think that's unusual."

Perhaps most remarkable, however, says
what Barack Obama planned for the office
of the president's sister, "an office that rich-
mondly does not exist," says Orman. "After
he won the election, he held a press confer-
ence in Chicago, put a seal up and the seal
said, the 'President Elect of the United
States.' Then all of the reporters started call-
ing him 'Mr. President Elect' and he held

press conferences. I mean we've had people
with all manner of names before, but we've
never had someone walking around saying,
I represent the office of the president-elect.
So he got people to buy into that and he
really elevated it." In a sense, he has already
accomplished what perhaps no president
in history has managed to do: install the
presidential office with glamour and sex
appeal, design—and even in case of dis-
tress of modesty. ■

STYLING: JACQUELINE WINTER; HAIR: JACQUELINE WINTER; MAKEUP: JACQUELINE WINTER; DRESS: ISABEL TOLEDO; J. CREW; OSCAR DE LA RENTA; MICHAEL FARRAR; NINA ROCCHI RODRIGUEZ; JASON WU; ISABEL TOLEDO



MASS PRODUCTION used to be about finding variables to improve speed and quality. Mass customization turns that approach on its head.

THIS COMPUTER IS SO ME

With 'mass customization,' every purchase is sold as a chance to express our individuality—a privilege we're willing to pay dearly for
BY STEVE MAICH AND LIANNE GEORGE

The northern countryside of North Carolina is tobacco country. In the Piedmont Triad, named for the three bordering cities of Winston-Salem, Greensboro, and High Point, the farmland is interrupted only by the occasional profit housing development with names like Hickory Creek and Whisperstone. In field after wide-open field, red soil still spouts the broad leaves of the cigarette trade—silencing tribute to the region's economic heritage. But right in the heart of the Triad, on 100 acres in the middle of the tobacco crop, stands a gleaming 794,880-sq.-foot monument to a whole new economic future.

Dell Computer's North Carolina operation is not so much needed among the farm fields as overall: from them—a two-story, ultra-modern complex of glass and steel, built in 2003 Dell already had plants in Austin, Tex., and Nashville, Tenn., to go along with factories

in China, Malaysia, Brazil, and India. But here, the company envisioned something on a different scale: the world's biggest and most advanced facility dedicated to producing fully customized products, built on demand.

The official goal is to churn out a custom-built desktop computer roughly every three seconds. In reality, they do better than that on most days, and the aim is for 12 to 20 per cent improvement in efficiency and speed every year. The factory shipped its first unit in September 2005—less than nine months after breaking ground. It shipped its one millionth computer eight months later, and its five millionth a little more than a year after that.

Inside, there's no deafening roar of machinery—just a small army of casually dressed workers checking monitors and making adjustments to the black boxes quietly rolling by on the 14 miles of conveyor belts that

reel through the facility. Natural light spills from huge windows and skylights onto a sprawling and spotless shop floor. There's nothing especially remarkable about the operation, unless you know everything that's behind it—and then the word "remarkable" doesn't begin to cover it. To those who've spent the past two decades imagining individualized sales and service on a massive scale, this is the future come to life.

There are 25 different computer platforms built here, from super-powerful PC gaming systems to the company's Inspiron line of consumer desktops. And every system has roughly 20 interchangeable hardware components to be loaded and tested, depending on the customer's specifications. Amazingly, the factory holds virtually no inventory. Dell orders replenishment parts every two hours and takes delivery twice each shift. It's all designed to ensure that a computer that rolled in \$56 billion in revenue last year can turn on a dime and deliver a customized computer to a customer's front door less than a week after the initial order, no matter what. Not even the forces of nature are permitted to derange delivery. In 2006, when Austin was hit by a

PHOTOGRAPH BY GARY EISENBERG



Never seeing my son play hockey again. That was my first thought when I got my results. But because I regularly schedule thorough exams, my Mayo Clinic doctor was able to catch the problem in time. My answer was Mayo Clinic.

JOHN HENDERSON
Newsome, British Columbia

Like John, you have full access to Mayo Clinic's world-class healthcare. As a not-for-profit organization, we've been putting the needs of our patients first for over 100 years. Our expert teams of specialists and unparalleled medical facilities are available to you for any type of illness. Whether it's the diagnosis or treatment of a serious disease or a comprehensive wellness exam or even a second opinion. Making an appointment is easy. In fact, you can book it yourself. Find your answer at Mayo Clinic. Please visit mayoclinic.org/canada or call 1-888-541-2373.

SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA | MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA | JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA



MAYO CLINIC

THE BACK PAGES

tv

Judging
the judges

P.60

taste

Eater the
haggis

P.64

bazaar

Diamond
decoration

P.68

film

Michelle
Williams

P.68

books

Angel on the
shoulder

P.67

feschuk

Anchors and
adjectives

P.66



I'M STILL HERE

A new league of over-60 female singers has no intention of ever giving up the stage
BY ELIO IANNACCI

It's 3 p.m. on a sweltering June afternoon in New York's Upper East Side, and 61-year-old singer Cher the Ken hasn't had lunch yet. Unlike most women her age, she's spent the day in back-lane meetings, sorting out concert contracts and signing legal agreements for her recently released DVD, *Carolina: Karaoke Live at the Cheltenham Jazz Festival*. With the help of her 47-year-old daughter/singer/dancer, Kier Shafer, the pair manages to make it on time for a award check for one of the top-plus gigs she has booked for 2008. Tonight's performance marks her return to the Café Carlyle—where Kar has been unusually showcasing her mother-in-law's music for nearly a year.

After finishing up with her band, squeezing in a wardrobe fitting, an hour of yoga and some phone time with her L.A.-based publicist, Kar winds down for a lightsnack during her interview with *Rolling Stone*—slotted a mere two hours before the night's 6 p.m. showtime. Her to-do list—which still includes a makeup and hair styling before curtain call—sounds music for anyone, let alone a person in her sixth decade. Yet Kar insists she is "taking it easier than ever."

"I usually do double of what I am doing now. Last year I did two shows a night for 11 weeks. This year, it's just one show a night for five weeks. In January, I'm doing two shows a night on Fridays and Saturdays until February. You see, if I were up to them, sleeping," she puns while farking at a glass of Irish beer, "I'd be punching the clock as soon as I got up. That's how much..." she pauses for drama, "the public and audience need!"

It was one of the last in-person interviews Kar ever gave. The tireless cabaret queen

equally known as *Cosmo* (she played the famous *Shelby* villain on the *Baywatch* TV series in the '90s) died of cancer on Dec. 15. But Kar remains an inspiration for a league of female singers who are over 60 and taking to the stage as much as they did during their younger years, among them Dolly Parton (61), Gladys Knight (64), Buffy Sainte-Marie (67) and Roberta Flack (71). All of them have recently been packing venues without a No. 1 hit or a single hitlist headline—or a season-inducing farewell tour.

"People make fools of themselves when they go on a farewell tour," says country veteran Dolly Parton via phone from her lake house in Tennessee. "Wapping up the last leg of the tour for her latest album, *Backroads* earlier this past November, Parton is belated by the fact that Tina Turner, 63, and Cher, 61, both announced their return to the stage in 2007, since each has already handed farewell tours earlier this decade. "I want to tell them, 'Don't be stupid,'" laughs Parton. "Don't ever get off the road, 'cause you're gonna get bored as you're gonna need the money. Just tell people, 'You gonna take off for a while, if you want. They're retired so many times it has become a joke!'"

Turner's concert string of concert dates, which have her booked through next Europe until April, have reportedly already made more than \$100 million in ticket sales alone in 2008. Also on no need of a lookout any time soon is Cher, who has signed a three-year contract for 200 shows in Las Vegas, which requires her to perform for three years at Caesar's Palace. Bette Midler, 65, has agreed to a similar arrangement, taking on a two-year run at Caesar's until early 2010.

"Making records just isn't enough anymore," Parton says, referring to the illegal downloading endemic in the music industry. "People want to see singers singing on the floor more than ever. There aren't as many real singers as there used to be so we usually have a full house. My fans understand that what I give them is genuine and labor-intensive. Especially for someone who isn't a singing chicken anymore!"

The demand is so high that Parton was pulling late nights and early mornings for

DOLLY PARTON (INFO) IS 61, Tina Turner (Quincy, 63, Karla Kar, 61, died Dec. 15)

MARK NELMAGNETT (GETTY IMAGES), CHRIS GORDON/GETTY PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ADAM DOLVO

seven months straight. "It's like living in the city of hell," she says, leaving her accented, phlegmy, 50-city tour: a video for her latest single *Shake It* (from her new album *Rocky*), a Broadway musical called *Y to the 4* and so on in the weeks due of dance music called *Shine with Me, Daddy* (about her new love life). "The only way I'll end [touring] is if I get sick or my husband dies, 'cause as you go up there in years, you have to give attention to your body more," she says, denouncing the three concert dates she postponed last February due to leak problems. "I might have had a small leak here or there but honestly, they'll be giving my body off the stage if and when heaven calls me."

Kitt saw eye-to-eye with Taylor's extreme

GLADYS KNIGHT (left) talks about the "saccharine" in her life; Roberta Flack (left); Buffy Sainte-Marie



work ethic. "If someone would even suggest such a vulgar thing as a goodbye tour, even for me, I would just not do it. Goodbye to what? My whole life?"

For Atlanta-based and singer Gladys Knight, the hardest part of being on the road is deciding what material to perform. Knight's Grammy-winning repertoire, which includes over 500 songs, spanning from soul and funk to R & B, recorded with and without her band, the Pips, is a constant challenge. "I've been traveling since I was four years old and it's my 60th year in the entertainment business. I mean the road is average of 30 to 40 weeks now so you do the math. That's a lot of memories to live in when I say this, you can't please everyone in context, even though I still want to," she says, referring to the dozens of "top 40 hits she's known for. "Someone always wants you to sing a song that isn't necessarily on your set list so I'm heavy on the medleys these days."

Having experienced the gray days of the "70s and '80s—a time when being a rock star spent no expense for headlining acts such as her—Knight says she received an education on how not to live the road. "There was critical champagne in every festing

room, [disgust] Rob Flack goes, radio-less interviews of over 250 people and press conferences. All the stuff that blew up a week's paycheck," she says in her discomfort. "Being seen all that, I carry the huge crowds on tour now I don't need so much from my voice as in the past so I can sing again. I only desired of singing when I was younger. When you get older, the spotlight is on the voice, not the sight."

However, Knight says, one thing never changes: "The sacrifice on your home life will always be there. It's difficult to make sure you take care of family when you are doing so many shows. It's like taking on two or three full-time jobs at once. Politicians like John McCain should have learned a thing or two from people like Tina Turner, Pam LaBarre and myself. We women have to make time and solve so many problems

the work of male rock singers such as the Rolling Stones. We have to sing, play instruments and get accustomed to walking out on stage in high heels. Never mind the pressures of your image," she points out. "If something goes wrong on my stage in any way, I can sound to myself, nobody can blame a band member—it's Roberta Flack who got the rap and looks bad. I'm the one on the bill alone with no gang of boys or crew behind me."

"Yes, the older, wiser and more seasoned but [positive] person and somebody," she continues. "More than ever, I don't want to see younger audiences today know what the real deal is and it takes hours of preparation to make sure my body will not sound like my face and that I am on my feet and look presentable. I've been on small stage a couple years and they are much easier and less forgiving when it comes to ladies."

Saskatchewan-born singer-songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie says she knows each concert is "a constant rehearsal." Speaking by phone from her house in Hawara, Saskatchewan, 63, who is currently planning a tour to support her latest disc, *Answer for The Dream*, says, "Touring helps strengthen my voice and it has given me a much cooler life than Madonna's. I'll play around 30 concerts a year or so, but as well as on a lot of stages and in a lot of venues, only benefit shows like Karmapa and Private Rapport in British Columbia—mostly non-commercial events."

Sainte Marie's performance philosophy is something that Karmapa Rim also lived by. "My public, such as, 'I'm old, I'm old, I'm old' before heading off to her last appearance before certain call, a session with her guru said. "When I sing a song I've sung a billion times before—something like 'I'm Still Here'—there is always a new and informed energy that wasn't there the night before. That's probably why I love—more than anyone else—what Oscar Wilde said, 'I don't have a life until I'm on stage.' It really does turn up my life." ■

'We have to do twice the work of male rock singers like the Stones'

at once while being on tour. Her credibility was on the line when he tried to back out of these debates. Ours always is too every night we are courage. Millions of people are trying to hear what you have to say—you can't just excuse yourself one night. What you do or don't do on the radio can easily turn into a bummer."

Fellow soul singer Roberta Flack, 71, who is currently touring Australia and New Zealand until the end of February, says female singers have it worse than men when it comes to touring. "Women have to do twice



PERFORMANCE OF THE WEEK: POLE DANCING
The pole's most common use is for entertainment, with 20 women taking into traffic and onto street stages to perform pole dances. Wearing jeans instead of bikini bottoms to avoid injury from the poles, the women were led by Brazilian dance teacher Renata Wilke, who is trying to promote pole dancing to the level of Olympic sport. It's like ballroom dancing, Wilke says, but "much more fun."

SUCCESS SUITS YOU

Writing success starts with Original HP laserJet print cartridges

Only Original HP print cartridges deliver the tone formulation specifically designed for each HP printer. This is critical because no one generic laser will produce the quality and reliability you need and expect from your HP printer.

And, in a recent study by QualifyLogic, it was found that one-third of pages inspected from the remanufactured cartridges were of limited or no use, while more than 98% of the pages inspected from the Original HP cartridges tested were acceptable for all uses.*

Successful printing – Original HP laserJet print cartridges deliver.

hp.com/success

*A 2007 independent study performed by QualifyLogic, Inc. with funding provided by HP, compared Original HP laserJet print cartridges with 250 generic remanufactured laser cartridges sold in North America. The HP Original 2500 (220A/24) and HP LaserJet 4350 (124A/24) cartridges were used for most of the study. See the QualifyLogic report for details. Also, Original HP cartridges are made in the USA. Remanufactured cartridges are made in China. Source: QualifyLogic, Inc. HP, LaserJet, and the HP logo are trademarks of Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P. © 2008 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P. The information contained herein is subject to change without notice.



TWO THINGS behind editing Kara DioGuardi (left) was that she and Paula Abdul could use girl-power to help control Simon Cowell

'All About Eve' and 'American Idol'

How soon, the show's viewers wonder, before the new judge tries to steal Paula's job?

BY JAMIE J. WEINMAN • *American Idol* is back, but does anybody really care about the contestants? The most controversial and can requestful thing about the new season is going on at the judges' table, where the show has introduced its first new permanent judge: Kara DioGuardi, a 38-year-old songwriter who has written hits for Britney Spears and Pink, has a habit of calling people "honey" or "sweetie," and has already been dubbed by the *Village Voice* "the hottest anybody's ever looked on *Idol*." It's the equivalent of adding a younger, cuter character to a long-running television hit, and as TV fans of all genres know, it's a gambit that can either revitalise a show or ruin it. The biggest question of the season's *American Idol* is not who's going to win, it's whether Kara will be a lightning-bolt addition or a character who finally makes the show jump the shark.

Though contestants on *American Idol* can sometimes become popular characters (Scott MacKenzie, the blind contestant, is already on his way to becoming a cult figure), no characters are more important to the show than the judges, who are like the regular cast members of a scripted show. Each judge has a clearly defined personality. Simon Cowell is the vicious, sarcastic one, Paula Abdul is the doofus date, and Randy Jackson keeps the more eccentric characters grounded. The fun of most episodes is not the middle-row song choices, but watching the judges react to them, and experiencing the famed tension between Simon and Paula. *American Idol* is really the story of these people with nothing in common who are forced to sit together and take orders from aork like Ryan Seacrest, it's not a music show, but the most popular sitcom around. When *Idol* tried adding new

characters in its prime, it just seemed to be raising a winning formula, an early attempt to add a second female judge, radio host Angie Martinez, lasted just five weeks.

But now, seven years later, the formula is familiar and the audience is a little bored. The show's median age is now 35, as younger viewers prefer to go on YouTube to hear old songs get butchered. That's where the new character comes in. With her youth, good looks, and involvement with songs that the kids know, Kara could have been created by a focus group. In an interview with the *Hustler* Chronicle, she came off as a coquette designed to please every demographic, telling herself "a combination of all these judges" and adding, "I don't really voice words, but I do feel I have a heart." On the show, she tries to live up to the description by cooing and a bit of manure ("You're not a good singer, sweetie") with Paula's headless indifference. Her big moment in her first episode came when she jumped up and showed blind contestant Karina Darrell the right way to sing Mariah Carey's *Voice of Love*. Darrell may have been right when she told Kara "that wasn't any better," but it wasn't about showing someone how to sing better; it was about establishing a personality for the new judge.

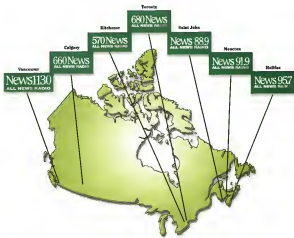
The producers are also clearly hoping that having two women on the show will create a

storyline about Paula Abdul and her relationship with the newcenter. The producer of *American Idol*, Ken Warwick, told *Spin* that one of the ideas behind the casting of Kara was that she and Paula (who helped Kara get started in the business) could use their girl-power to end Simon's domination of the show. "We thought it was high time on the part that Simon didn't get his own way," but viewers are more interested in whether the younger woman is going to steal her older mentor's job. There have already been details from both Paula and Kara, plus early sets-Paula reviews the *New York Daily News* declared that Kara mood: "In stark contrast to a push-over Paula, Abdul" it's like *Idol* has lost a injured with a dose of *Mad About Eve*.

But all of this season that audiences will like a new, younger character, anyone who hated *Scrappy Doo* as *Scrappy Doo* can tell you that's not true. Will Kara help *American Idol* stay more than the addition of Kristin Bell helped *Home*? It's too early to tell. Young viewers and women are still drifting away from *Idol*, but more of them turned in for Kara's second appearance, leading Fox president Mike Darrell to proclaim that "people like Kara." This may or may not be the case, but at least she's doing what the network wanted: creating some buzz, adding some new character dynamics, and coming up with a few lines that the other judges wouldn't say. And all, she did tell a male contestant that "you have a really big instrument." ■

We have you covered, coast to coast.

Rogers' News Radio stations have all of the news, traffic and weather you need, wherever you are.



ACCORDING TO TV: A BITTERLY COLD WINTER

"It got down to 11 below in Chicago last night. You know what they say at the Raven's Almanac, the longer the Gophers, the colder the winter in Chicago. In Columbus, Ohio, they declared a snow emergency. The snow is all the way up to the top of the four-square mile!" —Jimmy Kimmel

"Here's a tip: Take your boxer shorts and put them in the microwave. It's a tip I learned from Raquel O'Donnell." —David Letterman



SCOTTISH MASTER BUTCHER Neil Watt with haggis from his shop next to the Bute's support in Scotland include a veggie-only option

Hold the sheep's stomach lining

It's the 250th anniversary of Robert Burns's birth: deep-fried haggis won't, anyone?

BY PAMELA CUTLERBERT • No one's been more at-tout-pourpoint aside-and-pye huggins. Never mind that this burlesque play is a misnomer (instead of ground) organs, trout, smocked uppers and outs, all boiled in the healing of a sheep's stomach. Ever since Scotland's bard, Robert Burns, immortalized haggis, it has become the dish that launched a million parties—and possibly about as many interpretations. This is the 250th anniversary of the poet's birth, so the annual celebration of Burns Night, on Jan. 25, is promising more invention and revelry than ever.

"The menu is always in bold text," says chef Gossy Flinn of Gossy Canadian Bistro in Halifax. "It's like the chef is in a touristic pit. He prepared the sausage-like food once, when he cooked in a hotel kitchen, but then forgot about it. This year, Flinn will serve a Shrove Night appetizer: traditional hogues sausage with tartar, a meaty pork, caramelized onion balsamic jam and graty Dijon veg that he calls a 'big cross-country.' He'll use a mix of lamb and pork trimmings with back fat and "more palatable" venison such as lamb kidneys and pork tongue and chard.

Todd Wong started the Gong Hing Ho Fat Choy Ninny in Vancouver, a Scottish Chinese Burns Night banquet, in the late '90s. He sees it as "an integration, a reflection of Canada's inter-cultural nature." The year (which is also Chinese New Year's Eve), the seven famous dry food bagna watten, lettuce wrap bagna, and a traditional toasts.

Among connoisseurs, butcher shops are often considered the best sources for high-quality haggis. Paul Bradshaw, Toronto-born with Scottish roots, is at the Healthy Butcher, a shop with locations in Toronto and Kitchener. On Bradshaw, the head butcher, is

self-confessed lover of the staff and embedded on a "hugger harrer" a couple of years ago in Swatland. "I couldn't find a good one here and I thought it isn't be that hard to make." In the town of Aylth, butcher Mike Edwards took him in. "We talked more for a couple of days and he showed me the ropes."

Back in Toronto, Bushfire "played around with what I had learned in Scotland for about six months until I was happy with it." He eschews far from the nominally rabby Berlethine pig, lamb organs from a good, local source, and beef hump, a piece of beef intestine, for casing. "I can't get stomach on Canada from sources I trust." Instead of rolled oats, he prefers the steel-cut variety "for a crunch that's not like a chocolate bar, but more like a piece of crisp corn."

Youngest calf butcher Iain Hopkin of Mac Ewan Meats in Calgary haggles machine. The Scotsman has been making a throat for about 30 years, using beef trim. Scotch pinhead oil, molasses and beef suet in a beef-hungry bag. He sells three to four tonnes of the rib sticking out on the cold frames each January. "I'm the last remaining haggis maker around here, pretty much," he says. "It all fell on me."

Vegetarians and vegans are in on the action, too. In Scotland, most of the public Burns suppers offer a veggie-only option. The posting on the Taster's Vegetarian Association's

website for vegan huggs—with beans, legumes and nuts in place of meat and baked in a tin like a meatloaf—has proven a popular alternative for those wanting to make it an animal-free affair at home.

If Scots voters are still reeling at the thought of rucking into the Scottish national debt, they can reach for an essential second journey to take it down: plenty of Scottish whisky. Keeping a glass part of the ceremony, as prescribed by the book himself. Last year, when I went to Glasgow for the Hume affair, it seemed the entire city was in the party. Crowds packed the main streets, dark pubs, fiery restaurants and public squares for a glass and a dram—sympa. An educational in the Scotsman sounded a dire warning: would there be enough to go round in 2009, under the government of twofisted "Tories of the Humeocracy", which is a call to the Scottish diaspora... 50 million citizens, an entire nation to

household and mark Burns's apocryphal answer story. The paper filtered the run-in huggs to fears of champagne nursing dry for the millennium. It was all wrong though. Family in check. In fact, the Scots don't trust themselves to these vertebrae once a year, huggs to consumed pure-mund, scooped up from the frozen-food section of grocery stores and swallowed paying hot from street vendors. It's even people for breakfast here—without the whiskey. So on Jan. 28, remember Burns's words from "Address to a Huggin' 'O," what a pleasant sight, *Waters' self*, and "Oh! Dig it!



Depression is an "under-recognized disease," says one doctor; a 2003 study showed three per cent of the public is affected.

Something new to do at bedtime

These super-powerful antiperspirants go on at night when your body is most 'receptive'

BY CARMY GULLA • Dr. Maxwell Solish, founder of the Society of Chiropractors of Canada, has secrets all when it comes to participation control. Persuasive hygiene pads stick into the underarms of shirts. Towels sewn into pant pockets for a quick dry of urinary pains before shaking hands. Excessive sweating, known as hyperhidrosis, "is one of the rarer and more widespread diseases," says Solish. "It's a major issue."

So much so that a slew of super-powered orthopedists have hit the marketplace, offering, all promising to keep joints dry and strong for longer and better than any other on the outside profession. The list of new near-soppers includes Degree Clinical Protection, Lasky Speedi-Skin Chemical Proof, Seers and Gilman's Chemical Strengths and even OldSpice Pro-Strength. If the moans sound serious, consider the merchandising: The compressors are packaged in boxes that look like a can of WD-40, with a spray of cascading droplets, mist, spray and all. One: The biggest difference, though, is the application of these products. They go on before, "when the body is at its most raw and temperature and most susceptible to forming a strong barrier against perspiration," reads a Street Rags pamphlet. The near-soppers are so potent that you don't have to reapply the next morning—or even if you shower!

In an era in which Britnells warring and hostile dyadisms have just about become dinner conversation material, it seems that script talk has finally broken through the cone of silence. David Arquette admitted to enjoying the smell of his Courteney-Cox's sanitary underarms, a secret he blurted to that of a truck driver. Of course, not all the chat he takes such a frenziedly positive tone. Kate Hudson and Jennifer Lopez were hilarious

by ticked media when they were each spotted with well-sweet spots, at separate events last August. British model Danielle Lloyd got undercuts Botox injections to halt perspiration and stave off paparazzi pining for a drippy pith chat. (Solish, a cosmetic dermatologist and professor at the University of Toronto, also offers the popular treatment when scriptperennials don't work. Results last less than a year.)

The most hard-hitting criticisms invariably relate to the title. Sorry, hairy armpits. "Nastily ugly," wrote one chat room participant called "Edie," *Fashionsm*, on a Vinecountry website. "She's a broad, but they aren't scrawny. Boyzall spent a fortune to have the hair cut off," said Ray Richards last December, while spotted hairy armpits jokes about her recent hit song "H Water Day." Julia Roberts' famously arched at the Notting Hill premiere in 1999 wearing an armpit-bare revealing red sequin number. A few weeks ago, a British woman commented not to share for two weeks and kept a diary of the "horrible reactions for the few newscasters. By day 11 it shows 'avoiding...flapping ears'" and spending an extra 20 minutes in the shower, scrubbing her pits.

As such, it should come as no surprise that just this month, Unilever introduced Barc and Dove hair-minimizing deodorants in the U.K. They're said to work by slowing regrowth.

and making hair grow via a "pen-kill" concept." Sahbi says he's never heard of such a thing, but knows of a prescription cream called Vemur that produces angular scabs by interfering with a hair growth protein: in the body. Unilever estimates the new deodorant will bring in more than \$180 million in revenue this year and projects sales of its standard deodorant to plummet by one-third as people try out the new option.

There's this shortage of consumers for clinical strength antiperspirants either, three per cent of the public is affected by hyperhidrosis, shows a survey between 2009 study. And up to 10 per cent of women and 35 per cent of men between the ages of 15 and 64 perceive themselves as "heavy sweaters," according to a Procter & Gamble survey. The only disincentive may be a common belief that aluminum—the active ingredient that plugs sweat glands temporarily, thus inhibiting perspiration—may contribute to Alzheimer's or breast cancer. But the Canadian isomers for both of these diseases say there is insufficient evidence of such a link.

If nothing else, these new products may help create smart dialogue about the problems people suffer. One enthusiastic hairstylist who complained about her "swinging issues" in a *Exorcist* testimonial swore the anti-pests are changed her life: "Me and my girlfriends take a lot of pictures, we're like our own paparazzi...and they were like, 'You're dry' and I was like, 'I know!'" Or maybe not. ■

WHAT THEY GOT FOR IT... A TONGUE DEPRESSOR

American revolutionary patriot Paul Revere had a number of jobs, including working as a dentist, a silversmith and a blacksmith (he carved his teeth from walrus ivory). Some time after the American Revolution he is said to have forged a stoupe tongued depression, fitted with a 19th-century-style hammer. Recently, the object, bearing his name on it, sold at Boston auction for US\$14,100.



TODAY'S SPECIAL... INAUGURATION ICE CREAM

Commemorating Barack Obama's arrival at the White House, Ben and Jerry's has produced a special ice cream flavour called Yes Pecos, playing on Obama's famous upstart campaign slogan. Basically a rebranding of butter pecan, the ice cream is being offered for a limited time and carries a photo of the new President. Profits will go to a charity that encourages citizen participation in democracy.

MARTIN D. FAURELCP

L. C. LEE, P. L. CHEN, C. C. CHEN, M. C. CHEN, H. C. CHEN



WILLIAMS PLAYS A DRIFTER who loses her dog in *Wildfire* and *Luce*; the director had her dye her hair a dirty brown to suit her down

Michelle Williams's vanishing act

The Oscar-nominated actor wanted to escape celebrity. The result is a quietly brilliant film.

BY BRIAN KOPPELMAN Among the names vying for attention this awards season, none is larger or louder than *The Dark Knight*, and no prize seems more predictable than the posthumous Oscar statuette. *Wildfire* is expected to win for its supporting role as the Joker, but at the other end of the spectrum, the smallest and quietest film attracting serious notice is *Wildfire* and *Luce*, which features a remarkable performance by Michelle Williams, *Ledge's* ex and the mother of his child. At the time of writing this, the Oscar nominations had not yet been announced, and it seemed unlikely such a tiny film would be suggested—especially with no campaign and a restrictive star. But *Wildfire* and *Luce* has landed on numerous top 50 lists (quite included), received two nominations from the Independent Spirit Awards, and won citations for best picture and best screen from the Toronto Film Critics Association.

Williams has won acclaim before. She and Ledger both received Oscar nominations for *Inglorious Bastards* (after falling in love and conceiving their daughter during the filming). But *Wildfire* and *Luce*, which began a limited Canadian release last week in Toronto, is unlike anything she's done. Scripted and filmed with such intimacy by director Kelly Reichardt, this magical movie about a marginal character is virtually a one-woman show—the tale of a drifter (Wildfire) who loses her dog (Luce) while shifting groceries. Gearing herself down in a grocery to buy gas, and sleeping in her car, Wildfire is driving to Alaska to look for work as a miner when her car breaks down in Portland. *One Coroner* by a string of small outposts, then devastated by the loss of her dog, she comes to rely on the kindness of strangers—certainly an

aging, severely injured who spends his days standing watch in an empty parking lot.

For Williams, shooting this \$100,000 movie with a volunteer crew was an escape from celebrity. "She saw it as a retreat," says Reichardt, who shot the film in August 2007, just before Williams and Ledger announced their separation. "She really wanted to get away from New York and L.A. and just be free somewhere," the director told me in a phone interview last week. "She really liked that Wildfire was this character who felt invisible, which is the opposite of how she feels so much of her life. She feels so watched all the time. Michelle had been able to go to Portland and just blend in. I never knew her recognized the whole time we were there. This was before *House of Cards* was. She would not be on the radio, news to work, and I can't remember anyone ever coming up to her."

Reichardt also went out of her way to dull down her star. She had Williams dye her hair a dirty brown. "She had to colour it or the world would go mad," says the director. "My approach to giving an actor a look is just to tell them to quit bathing. And then watch her agree to do it. She couldn't wash her hair for two weeks. No makeup, no shampooing. And then you have a look."

For most of her adult life, Williams has begun each day with an unrelenting griping

to turn heads. From the age of 28, she spent six years touring in TV's *Queer as Folk*, on the promiscuous Jen Lindley. More recently, her roles have ranged from Rob Dylan's volatile crash in *The Hot Chick*, to a sex club bombshell in the erotic thriller *Driftwood*. But in *Wildfire* and *Luce*, her sexuality never comes into play. She looks and acts like an invisible boy who has run away from home.

Reichardt adapted her script from John Raymond's short story "Dark Chase," although the two were actually written in tandem. She met Williams through their friend Todd Haynes, who directed *I'm Not There*. The director wanted to cast a non-actor, and spent seven months looking for and life Wildfire, meeting and filming women while driving around America with Luce—the dog that's in the movie. "But you hang on to Michelle," says Reichardt. "She's a physical actress. She doesn't let her body—with just a look, or being really still—change it more if you don't have a line of dialogue. When you look at her through the camera, she can just be looking up at an apple, and your heart pounds. You know something is happening."

In the creative spaces of *Wildfire* and *Luce*, the language is Williams's on set, and she makes herself part of it, hiding out in the moment. Since Ledger's death, the actress has come to crave anonymity. "She's had this period in her life where she wants to just fade away," says Reichardt. And in *Wildfire*, she's done her best work by doing just that. ■



WE'RE STALKING... SOLLEDAO'S BIRTH

The CNN anchorman has filed a 20-page affidavit with his New York City court-appointed lawyer to remove "Luce," a neighborhood 40-day dog, in which she complains of the Harlequinian mother's "rage, delirium, screaming, screaming, screaming and screams." Although the dog's owner says she speaks (Luce) with orange ears, Solledao won't publicly discuss the issue.



THE THIRD HUNG: Mountain climbers have reported being helped by a mysterious figure, as have explorers and Sept. 11 survivors

Someone who'll watch over me

Angel or hallucination, a sensed presence has often rescued those in desperate situations

BY BRIAN KOPPELMAN • Joshua Slocum, on his way to becoming the first man to sail around the world alone, encountered one in 1895, an inexplicable presence that saved Slocum's ship through a 45-hour gale while the *Navicraft* lay grounded with food poisoning. *Starfield* Meiner, the great Indian mountain climber, felt in confirming nearness in 1970, during the nightmare descent from Kachin's Muga Pass mountain that killed his younger brother. And on 9/11 one called Ron DeFrancesco by name and convinced the brother that the route to safety on the stairwells of the World Trade Center's south tower meant running along flames.

Once you start looking for accounts of a "third man," a mysterious, winged- and invisibly responsible—presence who appears to people at times of catastrophe and danger, you can find them by the dozen, says John Gager, who presides an arm of them in *The Third Man Factor* (Penguin). They're best seen to end, but their deeply human book is far more than the sum of its parts. Gager deeply demonstrates how these dramatic and only personal experiences reveal one profoundly rich nature.

The Israeli presence takes its name from T.S. Eliot's "The Waste Land" (1913), perhaps the most famous modern poem in English verse. "Who is the third who walks always beside you? / When I count, there are only you and I together." ("I" that's the poet Eliot was inspired by) American explorer Ernest Shackleton, who described a fourth presence he had detected in the party of them, and even though he—no, just as likely, the most often happens to a single soul on deep physical distress.

Certainly about this sort of "third man" aspect of the ongoing common features of

the experience. Sometimes the presence is behind the sufferer, urging him on, or far ahead showing the way, or glimpsed from the corner of an eye. "But even if they don't know anything else, everyone knows whether it was a man or a woman," notes Gager. That's a detail utterly fundamental to human interaction—the first question that we ask about a newborn baby.

Sometimes, though, the presence is recognizable. Slocum, who had Christopher Columbus reach on his mind when he set out on his voyage, was powerfully reassured after he concluded that the pilot of the *Plaza*, one of Columbus's three ships—a man who had successfully sailed a my way into the unknown—had sailed over his ship. A female polar explorer saw and heard her parental grandfather. For DeFrancesco, a devout Roman Catholic, he once again thought the *Navicraft* was independently a guide and angel. What would someone like an angel's natural survival is key to how they visualize the third man. "If you're religious," says Gager, "you'll know this as an angel—it's the only possible explanation. If not, you'll see another candidate or hypothesis. Interestingly, I've not encountered any common experiences, where a non-believer concludes he is in the presence of an angel or God himself."

But angel, grandmother or grizzled Span

ish immigrant, saint or assassin, the presence is always invited and always embraced. The third man does not only offer sympathy and consolation—these who experienced that on a focus on someone might well be down and give up. No, the presence takes over, and tells the newly dead how to save themselves. James Scroggy—blowing a terminal, his back and eyes broken, his face smashed by a Reddy Mountain avalanche that killed his companion—was about to slip into unconsciousness and death when a female presence told him exactly what to do: get up, go back to camp, follow the blood dripping from the top of his nose, cross traveling in circles. She stayed with Scroggy, sat behind his right shoulder, for the count, agonizing, day-long journey, not leaving until those three found him.

Gager's selection and personal experiences regarding the science behind the experiences, and describing the causes of human involvement, with such memory (humans don't cope with sensory deprivation) and multiple triggers (usually, some combination of hunger, thirst, fear, isolation, cold) that what he keeps coming back to, rightly, is the social nature of the phenomenon. Whether it's our brains or our guardians giving the solution, they do not prefer to sit in the front of our own wisdom. "We've been herded for companionship," Gager concludes. "What's more natural for us in such situations, that when we're in need of a helping hand from another human, that is what we have." ■



FINALLY, A BOOK ABOUT... VATICAN-U.S. AFFAIRS

Powerful Empire (Oxford Univ.), by Italian journalist Massimo Franco, charts two centuries of the ties between secular and spiritual superpowers. From the early days of papal suspicion of dissenting and American anti-Catholicism, through the attacks against Soviet Communism which led to full diplomatic relations for the first time in 1984, to the sheer devastation over the sex in 1984, Franco's comprehensive has often illuminated the relationship.

Canoe Canada's Arctic



Play canoeing on the banks and rivers of Canada's Arctic and Great Lakes. The Arctic is a vast, beautiful, and exciting area. It's a place where you can experience the beauty of the Arctic in a unique way. The Great Lakes are a great place to learn about the history and culture of the region.

At the same time, it's also a place where you can experience the beauty of the Arctic in a unique way. The Great Lakes are a great place to learn about the history and culture of the region.

www.canoeartctic.com

You can help CHANGE this statistic

Every 3 seconds a child under 5 dies because they lack simple vaccinations and medications, adequate food and clean water.



beasponsornow.ca

Only \$1 a day can make a difference to a child

Reach 2.5 million readers every week.

"To advertise here, contact us at 416-668-1951 or info@maclean.ca"

MACLEAN'S

NO LEAD ABOUT ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CONTACT: 416-668-1951 OR INFO@MACLEAN.CA

TEACHERS, HELP LEARNING COME ALIVE IN YOUR CLASSROOM!

• 65¢ per student issue

• FREE teaching materials with a class subscription



macleaninclass.com

1.800.668.1951 • 416.764.2016

ROGERS

MACLEAN'S
MAKE SENSE OF IT ALL

They came from afar, the people and the adjectives



SCOTT FESCHUK

Long before dawn, they began descending on Washington's National Mall—the people and the adjectives. The people came from across America and beyond to secure a place for Barack Obama's inauguration. The adjectives came from the results of approximately 1.96 billion TV votes on hand in marble-corn “litmus”—extraordinary, really historic, truly historic. “In the face of such enthusiasm, Wolf Blitzer had to double down on his skepticism, welcoming viewers to ‘this amazing, awesome new era of a democracy.’ For some, existing adjectives were deemed inadequate. “This is a momentous occasion,” CNN’s John Roberts told viewers.

Cable news usually thrives on the edges of conflict—two voices rising in sound and fury, signifying nothing except a firm belief in the other’s fallacy. But in the emotional power of Inauguration Day was such that night across the dist. TV was a banner-free zone. When one pundit crossed the east of the ceremony, he was shouted down by his fellow commentators. When Robert’s co-anchor Katie Couric began reading notifications on spectators’ backpacks, no spoilers. —

Obama was expected to cut off the ball when “People just brought their own,” he cooed. “They brought their hearts. They brought their hopes.” No one dared to indulge in snark even when Barbara Bush rushed up ahead of her sick husband, leaving him to struggle down the stairs on his own.

“You’re going to see what this would look like if you were in space,” a view previously glimpsed only by astronauts and the robot suits of Tom Cruise’s home planet.

Throughout the day, the camera found many big celebrities and also John Cusack. Oprah Winfrey was there. David Hoffman and Service Spillberg were there. Meanwhile, Dick Cheney remained in a wheelchair. Apparently, he’d ignored his back-lifting some bones he’d taken home from the White House. Let this serve as a lesson to us all: bones snap awfully heavy.

The anticipation grew. The smallest event was proclaimed historic. Andean Cooper: “That was the last time that the Chief will

Campbell Brown, an anchor so opinionated that the radio-industry shunned her on whole tanks of gasoline. He declared Obama’s speech “the most important thing he also wants to lower expectations.” Really? That’s a tough balance to imagine. The only thing we have to fear is fear itself. And awfully more! Just as and horrible, horrible disease now! Just as.

Shockingly, Obama ignored Campbell’s televised counsel. His address was a masterwork, and if anything, it raised expectations. It lacked a JFK-style refrain but it had a JFK-style pace of go-all-year means. Two pollsters would dare to lecture the people by quoting Scripture to declare, “It’s gone to put aside childish things.” Few would have



Shockingly, Obama ignored CNN’s televised counsel. His address was a masterwork.

be played for George Bush? (Not counting when he fires his housekeeper in Texas to burn it.) Then the moment came, and Obama emerged before two million people with the serene countenance of a man walking out midnight just toward the first set. He seemed unflappable. Nothing seemed to faze him. A thought occurred: all in all, not the greatest day ever for when a president

In the unrelaxed, Joe Biden was sworn in as vice president on a Bible the exact size of his home state, Delaware. Then, same flapping. Obama appeared to read the oath of office (thanks to a lib by the poet laureate) but even in doing that, he managed to do it in a kind of adrenergic way, sort of like when Princess Diana took a midday during her wedding vows or when George W. Bush said anything ever.

The night before the inauguration, the news channels were in full speakers’ mode.

the confidence itself for “a new era of responsibility” in which Americans respect their duties not only to themselves but also to their world. Even still would have the normal skill to draw such an effective and inspiring parallel between the darkest days of the American Revolution and the scope of the country’s current global and economic challenges.

In the hours that followed Obama’s speech, there would be smiles, celebrations, parties, a parade. In the months and years that follow, there may be discontent, perhaps even disenchantment. But at this moment, on this day, there were only the words of a man, a President said, most important of all, a leader.

And in the crowd, there were tears. ■

ON THE WEB: To read Feschuk on the famous first blog, visit maclean.ca/feschuk

SHARA ARLENE FLANIGAN

1973-2009

A Ford worker, she longed to get on the day shift so she could spend more time with her two children

Shara Arlene Flanigan was born on Jan. 12, 1973, in Orangeville, Ont., the first of two girls to Patrick "Pat" Flanigan, a Ford worker, and his wife, Arlene, at the time a stay-at-home mom. Named after the title character of a 1940s pinup, Shara had blue eyes, light blond curls and an easy smile that made her a rival for Shirley Temple, despite being all gum and age one. Recall Arlene, "I was panicking, thinking she wasn't going to get teeth." A well-mannered child who loved dresses and bedtime stories, Shara was also a natural athlete with an inherent

Shara was drawn to the stability of Ford. She began her tenure in 1990 on the evening shift, pulling parts from the Brambles warehouse to send to dealers. Her vet endorsed her to her co-workers at the plant, whom, says Tansara, "the Flanigans are known." As adults, the sisters spoke on the phone constantly, and "that's a joy I had almost every week," says Tansara, recalling their annual St. Patrick's Day ritual, which involved elaborate costumes and clued with a macaroni version of *Dukey* Bay.

Before Shara started at Ford, she married James Miller, a high school friend. Having always loved kids, she took a full maternity leave when son Austin and daughter Renee were born. "They were first," says Arlene. While at work, Shara got relatives to read them bedtime stories, and set her sights on getting on the day shift. Her overachieving, however, wasn't easy. As a child of divorce, she "wanted to be able to say to her children she had made it," says Arlene, but in 2004, things fell apart: James left and Tansara, also in the aftermath of a breakup, moved in with her sister for several months.

Though Shara longed to be there to watch her kids' soccer, she remained upbeat. It was this "joy de vivre," says Phil Braynes, that first caught his eye at Ford. Despite her pledge not to gossip with co-workers, when a mutual friend (who knew about his crush) asked them to So So Blue Beach in July 2006, their connection was instant: A kiss on the lips after their first date earned Shara enduring teasing from Phil, who joked,

"You were quick with me." Charged at Ford, meanwhile, promised to bring even more improvements in her personal life. The company offered buyouts to its senior workers at the Brambles plant last May, after the shutdown. Shara was "thrilled" to discover her request to work days coincided with the buyout had been granted, says Phil. In September, the couple bought a home in Caledon East, which, says Tansara, "reminded us of the house we had in Orangeville."

On Wednesday, Jan. 14, Shara rose early to make the kids' lunches and lay out their clothes. She chatted with Tansara on the way to work, and again at 9 a.m. "We were laughing, and said 'I love you!'" says Tansara. About 15 minutes later, an accident occurred. A Ministry of Labour investigation is under way, but reports indicate that Shara was operating a standing forklift when a heavy load of auto parts she was moving shifted, crushing her. Shara was 36.

BY RACHEL NEDERLOON



fourteeners, says Arlene. An early propensity to "jump the living daylights" out of the glider on the family's swing set later gave way to diving, snow-skiing, pool, backroads and flying planes.

From the start, says Arlene, Shara and her sisters were "amazingly close." Tansara, who was two years younger and eldest of the girls, says she would up in Shara's room "pretty much every night." After the girls and Arlene divorced in 1979, the girls moved often with their mom, but didn't dwell on how things were. Whenever they started at a new school, they'd swap progress reports at recess, and in Sunday mass, Shara would induce fits of "crying-laughing" by stopping on Tansara's bedside as they walked up the aisle to take communion, she says. Though they took the familial situation in stride, including tense reunions, half siblings and stepmothers, the girls remained attached to their first home in Orangeville, where they stayed with Pat on weekends. Then, he took them on a tour of an abandoned house, which, says Tansara, gave them "the bug" to find other desolate properties and, later, start real estate ventures.

Even in high school, it was clear that Shara was "not an office person," says stepmom Chantarra. She gardened for her dad's rough house and volunteered at the Brampton Flying Club, where she also took lessons. A respectful teenager who "never talked back," she had her smoking habit from her mother and, one day when, while driving in opposite directions, their paths crossed and she was caught in the act. "That was panic stations for her," says Arlene. When she was old enough, Shara, who had a penchant for makeup, big hair and high heels, worked as a summer student at Ford's Brambles assembly plant near Mississauga, where Pat had always worked.

Although she toyed with becoming a police officer or a nurse woman after studying law and security administration in college,

IT'S LIKE AN ALL-YOU-CAN-WATCH HD BUFFET.

BON APPETIT.

ROGERS HAS MORE HD VARIETY THAN ANYWHERE ELSE. Rogers gives you the most HD movies and sports, as well as specialty channels like HBO Canada. And with HD On Demand, you can watch the hottest programs whenever you want. Get a Rogers HD box and start enjoying the ultimate HD experience today.

Get 1.888.ROGERS1 or visit rogers.com/hd for details.



LIVE LIFE IN HD™

ROGERS

UP TO 15% DISCOUNT FOR CUSTOMERS WITH MULTIPLE ROGERS PRODUCTS - TV, INTERNET, HOME PHONE AND WIRELESS PHONE.

† Discount applies to qualifying services. Excludes pay-per-view services. Minimum 24 month term required. See rogers.com/rogers/hd for details. ©2009 Rogers Media Inc. All rights reserved. Rogers Media Inc. is a registered trademark of Rogers Media Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Used under license or with permission. All 2009 Rogers Media Inc.

*Black for \$199.95
*Color for \$299.95
*MSRP. See retailer for details.



► **Accelerate** your Epsonality.

Make way for the new WorkForce™ 600. This blazing-fast, Wi-Fi®-enabled all-in-one copies, scans, faxes and cranks out laser-quality text about 2x faster than the competition.* All you supercharged Epsonalities better buckle up. This multifunction ink jet is ready for takeoff.

Everyone's got an Epsonality. Discover yours at Epsonality.ca

Available at the following retailers:

**LONDON
DRUGS**

Office DEPOT

STAPLES